

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND
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No. 1817.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1851.

REVIEWS.

Petrifications and their Teachings; or, a Hand-Book to the Gallery of Organic Remains of the British Museum. By Gideon Algernon Mantell, Esq., LL.D., F.R.S. Henry G. Bohn.

AMONG the many wonders that excited the admiration of the crowds of intelligent foreigners who visited London during the past eventful summer, none—Aladdin's Palace of Glass always excepted—called forth more expressions of heartfelt delight than the British Museum. The long and stately galleries, filled with treasures of art and nature, or laden with the concentrated essences of human learning, the miles of sumptuous cabinets and cases enshrining here gorgeously-plumed birds or delicately-sculptured shells, there exquisite labourings of human skill, elegantly shaped and painted vases, or elaborate and minute carvings—here, the jewellery of nature, there of art—might well impress the spectator with astonishment. There are great cabinets, great museums, and great libraries on the continent, many of them boasting to be superior to ours in some special department, but there is none in which the delights of the intellect are displayed in so magnificent a setting, and treated with such luxurious respect. Many find fault with the juxtaposition of objects and collections so heterogeneous as those amassed under a single roof in the British Museum. Possibly there is weight in the censure. But for ourselves it must be confessed that we find a charm in this magnificent collocation of dissimilar things, this pile of glorious works of nature and art, heaped, not without order, however, together. A walk through the British Museum is an intellectual feast, of which all the courses have been duly served. We come away with all the cravings of our mental appetite satisfied with digestible and wholesome food; our bibliographical longings in one, our antiquarian in another. The exquisite marbles of Greece leave their delicious taste on our art-palate. The cinerary urns of Etruria gratify that strange and supulchral relish for decay which the grosser epicure finds in well-kept game. Our truly British admiration of joint is fulfilled in the mammalian saloons; or if we would pick a bone well worth the picking, then we go among the mammoths, leviathans, and moas in the fossil galleries, and take the small gems and lustrous crystals to serve as condiment to our Titanic drumstick. The botanical rooms are our vegetable garden, whence we get preserved fruits and *spinach en papillote*. And if, after so ample a feast, we feel inclined for a lighter repast, we there not oysters and scallops, crabs, lobsters, and sea-eggs, all of the primest quality?

The Gallery of Organic Remains in the British Museum consists of a suite of six rooms, a length of nearly 400 feet. The splendid mineralogical collection is arranged in the same apartments with the fossils. Few persons who have considered the subject will doubt that these collections should be kept distinct, and placed under an entirely independent charge. In the present condition of science, minerals, considered as such and not geological materials, fall rather within the province of the chemist and crystallographer than of the naturalist. The national collection of minerals is one of the finest in existence, and of far too great value and conse-

quence to be made secondary or subsidiary to a totally distinct department. At the same time there could be no greater mistake than the making the charge of the palaeontological collections a mere appendage to the curatorship of the minerals. The two offices can very rarely, if ever, be effectively combined in one individual.

The organic remains in the Museum are arranged in zoological and botanical order—in order of their natural affinity, and not in geological sequence. We believe this to be the true plan for a general collection, and can conceive nothing more unwise than any attempt to break up such an arrangement, and throw the specimens into geological sequence; that is to say, in chronological order of their occurrence in strata. Within the compass of the minor groups this may be attempted, and has been in some of the cases. But, well as it has been done, we should prefer to see the attempt confined within the limits of genera, and not extended to order and class. In a general collection, a great part of which must necessarily be composed of specimens whose exact geological habitat cannot be precisely ascertained, or must be guessed at from the statements of incompetent persons, or it may be, the mis-statements of dealers, a pretence of arrangement in precise sequence of epochs is more calculated to deceive than to instruct. But the spectacle of all the various forms of extinct creatures ranged in order of their natural affinities, organism placed beside organism in accordance with the relationship of anatomical structure and external characters, is sure to prove of the highest interest, especially when they are collected together in immediate proximity, not mingled with, the finest series of preserved specimens of existing animals that has ever been brought together in any museum since the world began. There should, however, be a concordance in the arrangements of the recent and fossil collections. To make them thoroughly useful, the same system should be adopted in each, and a similar scheme of nomenclature. In public museums, the labelling of specimens should rather follow published systems than profess to be in advance of them. We object strongly to the bewildering of unfortunate students by the exhibition of specimens of known things under new and unknown names. A new name for an old species or genus may be adopted in a museum when the reason *why* has been published, but not till then. In the labelling of species really new, some such word as 'unpublished,' or mark 'MSS.' should always be attached to the ticket, and if a new generic name be assigned to the new species, then some memorandum of a proximate recognised genus should be added as an explanation. Fossil specimens should either be arranged along with recent and as part of a combined collection, or kept entirely apart, classed as a corresponding series. We make these remarks, because in the present arrangements of the British Museum there is manifested a want of some definite and acknowledged plan, and an evident absence of co-operation between the recent and palaeontological departments. With officers so able and active as the establishment can boast of, this should not be. As to a series of fossils arranged in geological sequence, for the reasons we have already stated, we do not think this could be made out with benefit. It is now being effectively done in the Museum of Practical Geology, where, through the

peculiar facilities afforded by the geological survey, there are all the means and materials for carrying such a system out. What with the stratigraphical collections in that Institution, and the systematic ones in the British Museum, there are now in London facilities freely afforded to the public at large for the study of organic remains, both in their natural history and geological bearings, such as were never offered before.

To make museums useful, manuals and guides, drawn up by qualified persons, are required. The qualifications necessary are so considerable for any one section, that popular guides to public collections are seldom of more value than the explanations of the fugleman of a raree-show. But when taken in hand by men able for the task, and of high authority, there are no greater boons to intelligent visitors and students. It is a satisfactory indication of progress in a right direction to see guide-books and catalogues of various departments of the British Museum drawn up either by officers of the institution, or by competent authorities who take an interest in it. Such a work as that lately sent forth by Mr. Vaux upon the antiquities there might form a good model. Some of the catalogues issued by the Zoological department are admirable examples of well-directed and learned labour. The volume before us is a valuable addition to the increasing literature explanatory of the Museum. The scheme of it is excellent. No better notion could have been hit upon than that of giving wood-cut plans of the several rooms and their contained cases, and then describing the remarkable objects in each, according to their position. To give still greater interest to his task, Dr. Mantell has commented at length, and with delightful vivacity and eloquence of style, on the most important or curious particulars connected with the history of the several specimens, and a vast amount of geological and natural history information is superadded, so as to render the volume excellent and instructive reading. In many respects it is a personal narrative of his own researches, and those of his worthy sons—a very natural proceeding, when we consider how the present gigantic growth of this magnificent assemblage of organic remains has in a great measure sprung out of the nucleus formed by the Mantellian collection. The name of Mantell will be for ever associated with the history of the British Museum.

It is difficult to select from a work of this descriptive nature passages such as can give a fair example of the manner in which the author has effected his task. We feel bound, however, to take a brick or two out of the building, in order to show in how interesting and instructive a style the principal objects noticed are described. Indeed, the learned Doctor seems to have discovered an art similar to that which has gained so much applause for Mr. Minton at the Great Exhibition, for all his bricks have enamelled surfaces, and when put together exhibit symmetrical and highly ornamental designs.

Here is his notice of the famous fossil Salamander of Oeningen.

"Among the tertiary lacustrine deposits of the continent, that of Oeningen, near Constance, has long been celebrated for the perfection and variety of its organic remains, and particularly for Batrachian reptiles. A short, but graphic memoir, by our distinguished countryman, Sir Roderick Murchison, presents, in a few lines, the history of these ancient lacustrine deposits.

"The Rhine, in its course from Constance to Schaffhausen, cuts through the tertiary marine formation, called the *molasse*, which rises into hills from 700 to 800 feet high, on each side of the river. On the right bank, a little above the town of Stein, is the village of Oeningen, near which, in a basin, or depression of the molasse, there is a series of deposits, composed of laminated marls, and cream-coloured fetid limestone, amounting in thickness to between thirty and forty feet.

"In these marls are imbedded the foliage and stems of various kinds of dicotyledonous trees, shells, remains of insects, crustaceans, fishes, turtles, and of large batrachians. These fresh-water beds have manifestly been accumulated in a lake at some very remote period, for their deposition must have long preceded the present condition of the country, as by far the greater number of the animals and plants are either extinct forms, or belong to species not known as indigenous in Europe; and the Rhine has worn a channel through the entire series and the molasse on which they are superposed, to the depth of several hundred feet.

"In the early part of the eighteenth century, the fossil batrachians of Oeningen, deeply interesting as they are to the palaeontologist, acquired far greater notoriety than they would ever have obtained as objects of scientific research, in consequence of the opinion which then generally prevailed that all petrifications had been produced by an universal deluge; and in 1725, the fancied resemblance of a cranium attached to a portion of a skeleton, discovered in the quarry at Oeningen, to a human skull pressed flat, led M. Scheuchzer, an eminent physician of his day, to declare, that at length the petrified remains of one of the sinful individuals who had perished in that catastrophe were brought to light! Under this delusion he published the well-known treatise entitled, '*Homo diluvii testis et theoscopos*.' This memoir contained an excellent figure of the fossil skeleton, which the author described as 'the remains of one of that accursed race which was overwhelmed by the waters of the deluge, and whose bones and flesh were incorporated into stone.'

"The rounded form of the head, the size of the orbits, and other batrachian characters of the supposed 'petrified man,' were, however, so obvious from Scheuchzer's own figure and descriptions alone, that the true nature of the original was suggested by M. Cuvier, before he had seen any of the fossil remains. In 1811, Cuvier visited the Teylerian Museum at Haarlem, in which Scheuchzer's specimen was preserved, and obtained permission to remove such parts of the stone as were likely to conceal any characteristic bones; and, as he had predicted, the anterior part of the skeleton of a large aquatic Salamander, with remains of the fore-legs, was exposed to view.

"The specimen in the Case before us, (of which a reduced figure is given in *Lign 41.*) originally belonged to Dr. Ammann, of Zurich, and was examined by Baron Cuvier when in England. It consists of the cranium, vertebral column, bones of the anterior and posterior extremities, and vestiges of the tail. The skull, which is pressed flat, nearly equals in size that of a man; around the semicircular jaws there are the remains of a double row of very fine teeth: the orbits are large: the occipital condyle is double; the remains of the posterior horns of the *os hyoides* are seen on each side of the occiput. There are nineteen or twenty dorsal, and sixteen caudal vertebrae. The ribs are very short, as in all batrachians. The scapula and humerus are exposed on each side the anterior part of the spine; the femora, parts of the tibia, and fragments of the pelvis are also visible. The result of Baron Cuvier's investigations proved that the original of the celebrated Oeningen fossil was an aquatic Salamander of a gigantic size in relation to all known existing species of the genus."

Far more terrible than this prince of Salamanders was the gigantic lizard discovered by Dr. Mantell himself, and of which so many wonderful relics are preserved in our national collections. Its name and every fea-

ture are so linked up with the fame of its discoverer, that just as it is utterly impossible to conceive the idea of St. George without the dragon, so is it beyond the stretch of imagination to separate the illustrious geologist of the Wealden from his attendant iguanodon. There is this important difference, however, to be noted; St. George's main purpose was to knock the dragon to pieces—Dr. Mantell's to put the pieces of his dragon together. How skilfully he recomposed them, the cases of the British Museum and the pages of the volume before us show. After a very full account of the several portions of its skeleton, the author thus concludes:—

"In fine, we have in the Iguanodon the type of the terrestrial herbivora, which in that remote epoch of the earth's physical history, termed by geologists '*The Age of Reptiles*,' occupied the same relative station in the scale of being, and fulfilled the same general purposes in the economy of nature, as the Mastodons, Mammoths, and Mylodons, of the tertiary periods, and the existing Pachyderms.

"With regard to the probable magnitude of the individuals to which the largest bones in my collection belonged, a general estimate only can be formed, because the relative proportions of the limbs, head, and body, are still unknown; sooner or later an entire, or a considerable portion of the skeleton of a young Iguanodon will be brought to light, and yield the information necessary to enable the palaeontologist to ascertain the dimensions, and delineate the physiognomy, of the living original.

"The size of the largest Iguanodon has been estimated as follows: length of the head, three feet—of the trunk, twelve feet—of the tail, thirteen feet—*total length, twenty-eight feet.*

"This statement will surprise the reader who, from the popular notions of the magnitude of the Iguanodon, has entertained the idea that this reptile attained seventy feet in length; but the discrepancy between the above estimate and that first suggested by me, admits of an easy explanation.

"In my earliest notices of the Iguanodon, which were published from time to time, as fresh discoveries disclosed new modifications of structure in this prodigious creature, an attempt was made to estimate the probable magnitude of the original, by instituting a comparison between the fossil bones and those of the Iguana; the recent type which the form of the teeth seemed to point out as the one most nearly related to the extinct reptile. It was thus shown that if the proportions were the same in both, the Iguanodon must have attained seventy feet or more in length. But this statement was qualified (more than eleven years since) by the remark—'It is not, of course, pretended that such an estimate can offer more than a *very distant approximation to the truth*; yet it may be confidently affirmed that a reptile, which required a thigh-bone larger than that of the Elephant to support it, could not be of less colossal dimensions. In truth, I believe that its magnitude is here underrated, for, like Frankenstein, I was struck with astonishment at the monster which my investigations had, as it were, called into existence, and was more anxious to reduce its proportions than to exaggerate them. Should subsequent discoveries prove that the Iguanodon more nearly corresponded in the proportions of the tail with the Crocodilian family than with the Lizards, its total length would be much less than is here inferred; and from the shape of some of the metacarpals and phalangeals, it seems highly probable that the original was more bulky in proportion to its length, than the existing Lacertians.'

"In subsequent notices this opinion was reiterated, and on the discovery of several perfect anterior caudals, I expressed my conviction that the tail of the Iguanodon was shorter than in the Iguana, and instead of being long and round, was compressed laterally, and largely developed in a vertical direction. In my Memoir, in the '*Phil. Trans.*' 1841 (pp. 137—140), it is stated that 'from the shortness of the caudal vertebrae, and

the length of the spinous processes, indicating a great vertical development of the tail, it is probable this organ was not long and slender, as in the Iguana, but approximated more nearly to the tail of the *Doryphorus*.

"The length of the united head and trunk, according to my estimate, is seventeen feet and a half; by Professor Owen's it is reduced to fifteen feet: a difference of no importance in such merely approximative calculations, particularly when the form of the cranium is unknown. The great discrepancy is in the estimated length of the tail; if the Iguanodon resembled the Iguana in its caudal proportions, its total length would be seventy feet; but if the tail was short, the total length of the animal would, of course, be proportionately reduced, and the most gigantic individuals may not have exceeded thirty feet in length."

"A recent discovery, however, supports the idea first suggested by the stupendous size of the bones of the extremities.

"In a block of calciferous grit picked up on the sea-shore, I have laid bare a chain of eleven caudal vertebrae, belonging to the middle region of the tail; and the bodies of these bones, instead of being abbreviated, as the shortness of the known anterior caudals led us to infer, are elongated as in the corresponding part of the skeleton of the recent Iguana. The length of four of these vertebrae is equal to that of five dorsals; and their spinous and transverse processes are so well developed, as to show that the tail must have been greatly prolonged—probably, in the same degree as in the existing lizards. The length of the femur of this individual is equal to six caudal, or eight anterior dorsal vertebrae. It is, therefore, according to the present state of our knowledge, not at all improbable, that the largest Iguanodons may have attained a length of from sixty to seventy feet.

"Although some important points in the osteology of the Iguanodon are still unknown, we may safely conclude that this stupendous reptile equalled in bulk the large herbivorous mammalia, and was as massive in its proportions; for, living exclusively on vegetables, it must have had the abdominal region greatly developed.

"Its limbs must have been of proportionate size and strength to sustain and move so enormous a carcase; the hinder extremities, in all probability, resembled the unwieldy contour of those of the Hippopotamus or Rhinoceros, and were supported by strong, short feet, protected by broad ungual phalanges; the fore feet appear to have been less bulky, and adapted for seizing and pulling down the foliage and branches of trees; the jaws and teeth demonstrate its power of mastication, and the character of its food; while the remains of coniferous trees, arborescent ferns, and cycadeous plants, which are found imbedded with its remains, attest the nature of the flora adapted for its sustenance."

There are several consolatory features in the above description, that reconcile us to Dr. Mantell's '*Age of Reptiles*', an epoch to which, from some strict scientific scruples, we entertain a few objections. These gigantic lizards of the Wealden time were, after all, but amiable vegetable feeders. The huge brutes passed a sort of Arcadian existence, browsing on asphodels and chewing up fir-trees. Undisturbed by either men or tigers, they lived happily and died calmly. Could they have anticipated the future, their constitutional serenity might have been ruffled by dreams of fame and hopes of British Museum immortality. Had they foreseen Dr. Mantell, they would have made a demi-god of him. And now, were some convulsion of nature to wake their ponderous frames once more to life, they would step down from the shelves in the gallery of organic remains with no ferocious designs consistent with their awful aspect. They would walk through the Museum saloons without swallowing the obsequious attendants,

and into the great library with no more terrific effect than, it may be, frightening Mr. Panizzi into expediting his Catalogue—for which the public would sincerely thank them.

We like this book too well to permit us to pass over a fault unscolded. We could have wished all controversy, except of the most friendly kind, omitted. It is out of place in a volume intended for general readers, and is only likely to be misunderstood, and to cause those who do not know philosophers better, to regard them as very quarrelsome people. The battles of geologists have hitherto been renowned for the hearty and friendly good-humour with which they have been conducted. Good hard hits may be given without hard words. Why should those who ought to be friends fall out about a *Streptospondylus*; whether it is to be called *recentior* or *major*; or whether a vertebra belong to that same jaw-breaking animal or to an *Iguanodon*? Surely such questions might be treated in perfect good humour. What the poet says about wine-glasses—

"Natis in usum letitiae seyphis
Pugnare, Thracum est,"

ought to be true about fossils. When 'Petraifications and their Teachings' reaches a second edition, as so useful a book is sure to do, we hope to find all irritating expressions expunged, and their places filled up with evidences of friendship renewed.

Arctic Searching Expedition: a Journal of a Boat Voyage through Rupert's Land and the Arctic Sea, in Search of the Discovery Ships under the command of Sir John Franklin. By Sir John Richardson, C.B., F.R.S. Longmans.

This work affords a glorious instance of genuine hearty philanthropy. With a self-sacrifice seldom equalled, and certainly never surpassed, the author of these volumes, at a time of life when most men think seriously of exchanging the cares and anxieties of an arduous profession, or of an official occupation, for repose, adventured forth to the terrible regions of Arctic America, to seek and, if possible, to rescue a cherished friend. And this was done with no other incentive than friendship, hallowed by former companionship in the same regions, and the social intercourse of many years. With becoming modesty, Sir John Richardson is entirely silent respecting his official and domestic position at the time of his departure on his humane mission; but it is due to him to say that he left a valuable government appointment, and sacrificed pecuniary advantages, when, taking leave of an affectionate wife and family, he left England in search of his old travelling companion; and though he has been happily restored to his country in unimpaired health and vigour, it must not be forgotten that the journey which he proposed taking was not only arduous but hazardous, and might have been accompanied by a repetition of the frightful sufferings which befel him during his adventurous and memorable expedition with Franklin in the same country he was about to visit.

Sir John Richardson was accompanied by Mr. Rae, whom he extols as a most able and zealous coadjutor throughout his laborious journey. They left Liverpool on the 25th of March, 1848, landed at New York, and proceeded by way of the Hudson and Lake Champlain to Montreal, where they found fifteen Canadian voyageurs, who, with five

seamen and fifteen sappers and miners who had previously embarked from Gravesend, formed the expedition. From Montreal, their route lay through Lakes Ontario, Erie, St. Claire, and Huron to Sault St. Marie, where they were detained some days waiting for the disruption of the ice on Lake Superior. When the lake opened they resumed their voyage to Fort William, and from thence to Lake Winnipeg and the Buffalo and Methy Lakes to Methy Portage. The five boats and stores were transported on men's shoulders across this portage in eight days. The expedition then descended the Mackenzie, the mouth of which river was reached on the 4th of August. Here they fell in with a tribe of Eskimos, who, to the number of about 200, crowded around them:—

"Our inquiries were directed chiefly to obtaining information of the Discovery ships, but the Eskimos, one and all, denied having ever seen any white people, or heard of any vessels having been on their coast. None acknowledged having been present at the various interviews of their countrymen with white people in 1826, and perhaps the circumstances attending those meetings might have deterred them from confessing that they were relatives of the parties that assailed Sir John Franklin's boats at that time; and as most of the men were stout young fellows, and few beyond the prime of life, only two or three of the old men in the umiaks could have been actually engaged in the struggle which then took place. One fellow alone, in answer to my inquiries after white men, said, 'A party of men are living on that island,' pointing, as he spoke, to Richard's Island. As I had actually landed there on the preceding day, I was aware of the falsehood he was uttering; and his object was clearly to induce us to put about and go on shore, which he and others had been soliciting us to do from the commencement of our conversation. I, therefore, desired Albert to inform him, that I had been there, and knew that he was lying. He received this retort with a smile, and without the slightest discomposure, but did not repeat his assertion. Neither the Eskimos, nor the Dog-rib or Hare Indians, feel the least shame in being detected in falsehood, and invariably practise it, if they think that they can thereby gain any of their petty ends. Even in their familiar intercourse with each other, the Indians seldom tell the truth in the first instance; and if they succeed in exciting admiration or astonishment, their invention runs on without check. From the manner of the speaker, rather than by his words, is his truth or falsehood inferred; and often a very long interrogation is necessary to elicit the real fact. The comfort, and not unfrequently the lives, of parties of the timid Slave or Hare Indians are sacrificed by this miserable propensity. Thus, a young fellow often originates a story of his having discovered traces of an enemy for which there is no real foundation. This tale, though not credited at first, makes some impression on the fears of the others, and soon receives confirmation from their excited imaginations. The story increases in importance, a panic seizes the whole party, they fly with precipitation from their hunting-grounds, and if they are distant from a trading post, or large body of their nation, many of the number often perish in their flight by famine."

This sad and habitual love to mislead rendered it absolutely necessary to place no reliance whatever on any information communicated by the Eskimos, and it is unfortunately evident that the tribes inhabiting the northern parts of Batlin's Bay are equally mendacious. The expedition had now entered the field of search, which comprised the examination of the North American coast from the estuary of the Mackenzie to the mouth of the Coppermine River, and the shores of Victoria and Wollaston Lands lying opposite

Cape Krusenstern. The examination of these shores was deemed highly important, as it was presumed that a passage existed to the northwards between Victoria and Wollaston Lands (which is now disproved by Mr. Rae's late explorations), and, therefore, if Sir John Franklin had carried his ships to the south of Cape Walker, it was assumed as very probable that he would make for the North American continent. The recent explorations of Captain Austin's officers in the vicinity of Cape Walker, and, above all, the discovery of the winter quarters of the lost expedition within Wellington Channel, of course destroy this hypothesis; but it can never be regretted that the North American coast between the Mackenzie and Coppermine Rivers was searched.

With much difficulty the boats were navigated as far as Cape Kendall, where the numerous ice-floes impeded farther progress. Here the expedition encamped:—

"On viewing the sea from the high grounds behind our encampment, and ascertaining that no lanes of open water were visible in any direction, I determined, after consulting with Mr. Rae, to leave the boats at this place, and commence the overland march in the course of two days if no amelioration of the weather or alteration in the state of the sea occurred during the interval. If the weather should improve, it was our intention to remain some days longer, to watch its effects on the ice. The higher grounds at this time were covered with snow, but the lower lands were mostly bare.

"The unavoidable conclusion of our sea voyage while still at some distance from the Coppermine River was contemplated by me, and I believe by every individual of the party, with great regret. I had hoped, that by conveying the boats and stores up the Coppermine River beyond the range of the Eskimos we could deposit them in a place of safety to be available for a voyage to Wollaston Land next summer. But abandoned as they must now be on the coast, we could not expect that they would escape the searches of the hunting parties who would follow up our foot-marks, and who were certain to break up the boats to obtain their copper fastenings. The unusual tardiness of the spring, and our unexpected delay on Methy Portage for want of horses, caused our arrival on the arctic coast to be considerably later than I had in secret anticipated, though it differed little from the date I had thought it prudent to mention when asked to fix a probable time. Even a few days, so unimportant in a year's voyage elsewhere, are of vital consequence in a boat navigation to the eastward of Cape Parry, where six weeks of summer is all that can be reckoned upon. Short, however, as the summer proved to be, neither that nor our tardy commencement of the sea voyage would have prevented me from coasting the south shore of Wollaston Land, and examining it carefully, could I have reached it, for the distance to be performed would have been but little increased by doing so. The sole hindrance to my crossing the Dolphin and Union Straits was the impracticable condition of the close-packed drift-ice. In wider seas, where fields and large floes exist, these offer a pretty safe retreat for a boat-party in times of pressure, and progress may be made by dragging light boats like ours over them; but the ice that obstructed our way was composed of hummocky pieces, of irregular shape, and consequently ready to revolve if carelessly loaded or trod upon. At certain times of the tide, moreover, they were hustled to and fro with much force.

"As only small-packs of ice and few in number were seen off the Coppermine by Sir John Franklin in 1820, by myself in 1826, and by Dease and Simpson in 1836 and 1837, being four several summers, the sight of the sea entirely covered so late in August was wholly unexpected, and I attributed so untoward an event to the north-west winds having driven the ice down from the north

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in the first instance, and to the easterly gales, which afterwards set in, pressing it into that bight of Coronation Gulf; but Mr. Rae's experience in the summer of 1849 shows that in unfavourable seasons the boat navigation is closed for the entire summer, and we learned from a party of Eskimos whom we met in Back's Inlet, as I shall have occasion to mention hereafter, that the pressure of the ice on the coast this summer was relieved only for a very short time.

"The state of the straits produced the melancholy conviction, that a party, even though provided with boats, might be detained on Wollaston Land, and unable to cross to the main; but yet at that time my apprehensions for the safety of the missing ships were less excited than they have been since. For then their absence had not been extended much beyond the time that their provisions were calculated to last; and, being ignorant of Sir James C. Ross having been arrested in Barrow's Straits, I hoped that the accumulation of ice which annoyed us might be the result of a clearance of the northern channels, and that the two ship expeditions might have happily met at the very time that we were no longer able to keep the sea. It is now known that the season was equally unfavourable throughout the arctic seas north of America."

The party were now directed to prepare for walking. The baggage, consisting of thirteen days' provisions, cooking utensils, hatchets, astronomical instruments, a few books, the ammunition, two nets, lines, Halkett's portable boat, &c., were distributed by lot, each load being calculated to weigh about sixty or seventy pounds. Mr. Rae voluntarily resolved to transport a package nearly equal to the men's in weight, but Sir John Richardson, distrusting his own powers, limited himself to his fowling-piece, ammunition, and a few books. The men, it is stated, did not walk well, being rather overladen; but they were animated by a cheerful spirit, and succeeded, after marching through half-frozen swamps and over hills covered with snow, in reaching their destined quarters at Fort Confidence. Here they passed the winter:—

"Our winter dwelling, though dignified, according to custom, by the title of 'the fort,' had no defensive works whatever, not even the stockade which usually surrounds a trading post. It was a simple log-house, built of trunks of trees laid over one another, and mortised into the upright posts of the corners, doorways, and windows. The roof had considerable slope: it was formed of slender trees laid closely side by side, resting at the top on a ridge-pole, and covered with loam to the depth of six or eight inches. A man, standing on the outside, could touch the eaves with his hand. Well-tempered loam or clay was beat into the spaces left in the walls by the roundness of the logs, both on the outside and inside, and as this cracked in drying, it was repeatedly coated over, for the space of two months, with a thin mixture of clay and water, until the walls became nearly impervious to the air. The rooms were floored and ceiled with deal. Massive structures of boulder stones and loam formed the chimney-stacks, and the capacious fire-places required three or four armfuls of fire-wood, cut into billets three feet long, to fill them.

"The building was forty feet long by fourteen wide, having a dining-hall in the centre, measuring sixteen by fourteen, and the remaining space divided into a store-room and three sleeping-apartments. A kitchen was added to the back of the house, and a small porch to the front. Mr. Rae's room and mine had glazed windows, glass for the purpose having been brought up from York Factory. The other windows were closed with deer-skin parchment, which admitted a subdued light. Two houses for the men stood on the east, and a storehouse on the west, the whole forming three sides of a square, which opened to the south. The tallest and straightest tree that could be discovered

within a circuit of three miles was brought in, and being properly dressed, was planted in the square for a flag-post; and near it a small observatory was built, for holding magnetic instruments.

"Of the buildings which Dease and Simpson erected, Mr. Bell, on his arrival in the middle of August, found only part of the men's house and a stack of chimneys standing; the others having, through the carelessness of the Indians, been destroyed by fire. Our predecessors had cut down most of the timber within a mile of the house, and what we needed had consequently to be brought in from a wider circle. A part of Mr. Bell's people were constantly engaged with the fisheries, but the others had worked so diligently, that the buildings were all covered in on our arrival, and the flooring, ceiling, and partitions were shortly afterwards completed. Two of the sappers and miners, Mackay and Brodie, carpenters by trade, were employed to make tables and chairs; and Bruce, the guide, acted as general architect, and was able and willing to execute any kind of joiner's work that was needed. Two men were constantly employed as sawyers; four as cutters of fire-wood, each of them having an allotted task of providing a cord of wood daily; others were occupied in drawing it home on sledges; and four men were continually engaged in fishing. On the Sunday no labour was performed, the fishing party came in, and all were dressed in their best clothes. Prayers were said in the hall, and a sermon read to all that understood English; and some of the Canadians, though they were Roman Catholics, usually attended. James and Thomas Hope, who were Cree Indians, having been educated at Norway House as Protestants, and taught to read and write, were regular attendants; and James Hope's eldest son, a boy about seven years of age, who had already begun to read the Scriptures, frequently recognised passages in the lessons that he had previously read.

"During the winter, Mr. Rae and I recorded the temperatures hourly, sixteen or seventeen times a day; also the height of the mercury in Delcro's barometer; the degrees of the aneroid barometer, the clinometer, and dipping-needle. Once in the month a term-day, extending to thirty-six hours, was kept, in which the fluctuations of the magnets were noted every two and a half minutes, and various series of observations were made for ascertaining the magnetic intensity with the magnetometer, the vibration apparatus, and Lloyd's dipping-needle. Mr. Rae ascertained frequently the time and rates of the chronometers by observations of the fixed stars; and a register of the winds and weather and appearances of the aurora was constantly kept."

With Sir John Richardson's arrival at Fort Confidence terminated his search for Sir John Franklin. In the summer of 1849 he returned to England, leaving Mr. Rae to carry out the Admiralty's instructions to examine Victoria and Wollaston Lands, which the state of the ice prevented Sir John Richardson doing in 1848. Mr. Rae's failure in the former year, from similar causes, is too well known to render it necessary for us to enter into this part of Sir John Richardson's narrative, which completes the historical division of his volumes.

We are glad, however, to find that Sir John's gallant companion has been more successful in his expedition this year. Starting from Fort Confidence with two companions and sledges drawn by dogs, he reached the American coast near Cape Kendall, and passed from thence over the ice to Wollaston Land, which he explored as far as 117° west longitude. Several tribes of Esquimaux were seen, all of whom manifested the most friendly disposition. Mr. Rae and his companions were absent thirty-eight days, and although exposed to much hardship, returned to their winter quarters in excellent health. This may, in a great measure, be attributed to the

abundance of game which they met with in Wollaston Land, and on which they principally subsisted. It is almost needless to say, that they obtained no intelligence of the missing expedition.

The larger portion of Sir John Richardson's work is occupied by an able description of the fauna and flora, and physical features of the countries visited, including the ethnology of the various tribes inhabiting North America.

A Contribution towards an Argument for the Plenary Inspiration of Scripture, derived from the Minute Historical Accuracy of the Scriptures of the Old Testament. By Arachnophilus. Bagster and Sons.

MANY a client has suffered from too great zeal on the part of his advocate. By attempting to prove more than the evidence will warrant, the advocate has frequently caused the real value of the evidence to be overlooked, and given an advantage to his opponent. This is the case, to a great extent, with the pamphlet before us. The recent discoveries and researches of Mr. Layard, Colonel Rawlinson, and others, have tended to show that the historical books of the Old Testament are, what they purport to be, real historical documents, and not, as some have vainly supposed, mere mythical narratives, or the inventions of a later age. Such a confirmation of the value of the Sacred Scriptures we cheerfully and thankfully accept; and we have a firm conviction that further proof of this important fact will soon be furnished us by the labours in which Colonel Rawlinson is at present engaged. But it is one thing to assert that these discoveries prove the historical value of the books of Kings and Chronicles, and another and a very different thing to maintain, as the writer of this pamphlet does, that they prove the 'plenary inspiration' of the Scriptures. Arachnophilus calls special attention to two instances to establish his position; and as the matter is one of some importance, we will allow him to state them in his own words:—

"At the northern end of the Egyptian gallery, on the right-hand side of the door, before you come to the library, there is a seated figure from Karnak, with an animal's head. It is inscribed with the name of Sheshonk I, a name first made out by Champollion. This figure is undoubtedly a monument of the reign of Shishak, who took Rehoboam, the king of Judah, captive (1 Kings xiv. 25). *

"Colonel Rawlinson, in a letter, announces that the king who built the palace of Khorsabad, excavated by the French, was Shalmaneser (the 'Sargon' of Isaiah xx. 1), who came up against Hoshea, the king reigning in Samaria, and made him give him presents (2 Kings xvii. 3), and finally, for rebellion, shut that monarch in prison, and afterwards took his capital, 'and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor, by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes' (l. c. v. 6). On one of the tablets from Khorsabad, figured in Botta's work (plate 70), this conquest is sculptured. Omitting Shalmaneser's other deeds, we only allude to what Rawlinson says, that Khorsabad 'retained among the Syrians the title of Sarghun, as late as the Arab conquest.' His son, Sennacherib, built the great palace of Koyunjik, which Dr. Layard has been recently excavating, and from which he has brought so many remains, some of which will delight the Biblical scholar as well as the artist, when described, figured, and displayed.

"Omitting other results of Layard's, Botta's researches, and Rawlinson's determination, we close this part with an interesting quotation from Col. Rawlinson's letter:—'I have already identified the

Samaritans among the groups of captives portrayed upon the marbles of Khorsabad; and when I shall have accurately learnt the locality of the different bas-reliefs that have been brought from Koyunjik, I do not doubt but that I shall be able to point out the bands of Jewish maidens who were delivered to Sennacherib, and perhaps to distinguish the portraiture of the humbled Hezekiah.' "This is 'no cunningly-devised fable,' but is, and will be, as clear to any one visiting the British Museum, as it is to Colonel Rawlinson. On it, and the preceding instances, a powerful argument may be formed, as for the truth of 2 Tim. iii. 16; and one, in our opinion, which is quite unanswerable."

Such instances strongly corroborate the historical accuracy of the books of Kings, but how they prove that "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God," we are at a loss to imagine. Let us apply our author's argument to an analogous case in a profane writer. Herodotus, as is well known, relates that Xerxes ordered a canal to be cut through the isthmus of Mount Athos, that his ships might not be exposed to the stormy weather which frequently prevails upon this coast, and which had destroyed the fleet of Mardonius, in sailing round the rocky peninsula a few years before. This work is said to have occupied a number of workmen for three years. Such a lavish expenditure of time and money for so unnecessary an object has seemed to many writers, both ancient and modern, as a thing quite incredible. Niebuhr, in his 'Lectures on Ancient History,' positively denies its truth, and Juvenal refers to it as a specimen of Greek mendacity—

"Creditur olim
Velificatus Athos, et quidquid Graecia mendax
Audent in historia."

But the researches of modern travellers have vindicated the truthfulness of the father of history. Colonel Leake and Lieutenant Wolfe have discovered the most distinct traces of this canal. 'Arachnophilus,' of course, would not contend that the work of Herodotus is inspired, because we thus obtain a proof of his historical veracity, and yet he uses exactly the same argument to support the inspiration of the Scriptures.

We trust that our readers will not infer from the above remarks that we disbelieve in the inspiration of the Sacred Scriptures. Such an inference would be both ungenerous and unjust. Their historical value and their inspiration require two distinct species of proofs. It is true that, if their historical value is upset, their inspiration must also fall to the ground, and that whatever establishes the former prepares the way for the establishment of the latter. But the proof of the former does not prove the latter, and the supposition that it does so is the error in the present pamphlet. We fear more for the authority of Scripture from the advocacy of its friends than from the attacks of its foes; and it is because we have seen in many quarters a tendency to confound the evidence for its historical value with the evidence for its divine authority, that we have called attention to the present pamphlet. If, however, 'Arachnophilus' would continue to collect the numerous proofs, supplied by the recent discoveries in Assyria, in favour of the genuineness of the historical books of the Old Testament, without attempting to make them prove what they cannot do, he will render important service to that cause which he has best at heart.

The Rhyme Book. By Hercules Ellis.

Longmans.

In noticing lately (*ante*, p. 670) a volume of verse by John Wright, we said that, whatever other merit it might possess, it was one of the largest and best printed books of poetry that had appeared for some time. But the 'Rhyme Book' of Hercules Ellis is superior to it, both in bodily bulk and typographic beauty. Here is a tome of no less than seven hundred and fifty pages! and every page decorated with a marginal rubric of ingenious design! The author tells us in the introduction that "this work was produced by the Crystal Palace. It owes its existence to the announcement of the Exhibition of 1851, that prolific cause of thought and effort in every part of the civilized world." In what part of the civilized world Mr. Ellis dwells we know not, but from various internal evidence we suppose it to be the Emerald Isle. Thither came the announcement of prizes to be awarded to works of merit at the Great Exhibition. The ambition of the Hibernian bard was roused, and he resolved to send for competition "a specimen of original poetry." Quantity, not quality, seems to have been considered the first element of success. How to produce the greatest amount of rhyme in the least possible time—this was the grand problem. To have prepared so huge a volume in the brief interval between the announcement and the opening of the Exhibition, is certainly a surprising feat of human labour. Mr. Ellis had a close run for it, for he tells us that the printer had time only to strike off twelve copies, when the hour of latest possible delivery arrived. But now a bitter disappointment awaited him. The secretary of the juries wrote to say that no jury on literary merit existed, or had ever been contemplated, and that the 'Rhyme Book' could be examined only as a specimen of typography and binding. Mr. Ellis replied, that in his work there was as much of invention, art, and labour, as in any object exhibited, and that other works of the fine arts, painting, and sculpture, were admitted to competition. The picture of the Queen on Sevres China, for example, was not to be judged on account of the hardness of the porcelain, or the brightness of the colour, but also according to its merits as a painting. Long correspondence ensued, Mr. Ellis addressing, in vain, juries and commissioners, and at length Prince Albert, receiving in reply cruelly brief official acknowledgments. How far he was rightly dealt with in the matter it is needless to discuss; if the commissioners might have been somewhat more courteous and considerate, Mr. Ellis might have saved them, as well as himself, much trouble, by ascertaining at an earlier period whether poetry was to be admitted to competition. From the relentless jurors of Class XVII. appeal is now made to the British public. The book must now be judged on its own merits, apart from the fame its author anticipated in being crowned the laureate of the assembled nations. We do not agree with him in thinking that a prize would have obtained for the volume a circulation which poetic merit would fail to procure.

Interdum recte vulgus sapit; and in poetry, the popular judgment is generally the correct one. We can do little more in the present case than advertise to the literary world the existence of 'The Rhyme Book,' which, though exhibited in the Crystal Palace, was unkindly omitted in the Official Catalogue.

In a preliminary essay, entitled 'Rhyme-Names,' Mr. Ellis attempts to reduce to some classification the various kinds of minor poetry. Into the seven classes of Sonnet, Songlet, Song, Rhyme, Ballad, Romance, and Idyl, he thinks they may be conveniently divided. The Song and Songlet differ in length merely; the Rhyme differs from the Song in its being unsuited to be sung; the Romance is a narrative poem, longer than the Song; the Ballad, not narrative; the Idyl is of more regular structure and classic form than the ballad or romance—'Goldsmith's Deserted Village,' for instance. Some kind of classification of minor poetry is desirable, and although that of Mr. Ellis is not likely to be received, credit is due for the attempt made, and for directing attention to the subject. We fear it will be found impossible to bring the light and irregular cavalry of minor verse into discipline and order under certain standards.

Specimens of all the divisions of minor poetry are given in this volume. It contains "230 original poems, comprising romances descriptive of British and Irish battles, legends, and deeds of heroism, together with ballads, idylls, songs, &c." Such was the description accompanying the 'Rhyme Book' in the Crystal Palace. As the most favourable quotations we can find, here are the opening lines of two of the poems, one heroic, the other comic:—

"THE ROMANCE OF AZINCOURT.

"King Harry lay at Azincourt,
Upon St. Crispin's day,
And fronting him, the wide plain o'er,
A thousand banners gaily soar,
And mark the ground where France's power
Has marshalled its array;
And through that host of puissant might
His way to England he must fight.

"The British force, both foot and horse,
To scarce ten thousand mount;
While those who ride on France's side,
In long array with banner'd pride,
A hundred thousand count.
And sick, and hunger-smit, and tired,
The British host advance;
While fresh, with hope and valour fired,
In burnished armour all attired,
Come on the sons of France.
Since first the sword was forged, I ween,
Such fearful odds were never seen."

Of such stanzas there are eighty-four, of which this is the last—

"And if the time should ever come,
When we must join the fray,
And fight for altar and for home,
Oh! then let Britons pray,
That we may stand like that brave band
Who Harry's standard bore,
And prove as bold as those of old,
Who fought at Azincourt."

The comic piece is entitled—

"THE ROMANCE OF THE MIDWIFE.
"From Kilsane to Ballydonner,
Known to all is Nelly Conner.
Midwife to the country round her;
Skilful, every mother found her.
Nought to Nelly was a trouble,
Single births, nor even double.
In all difficulties, plucky,
In the worst of cases, lucky;
Great's the skill of Nelly Conner,
No mishap was e'er laid on her.
O'er her right eye, a black patch is,
With her left alone she watches.
How her right eye lost poor Nelly,
Listen to me, and I'll tell ye."

Both these pieces open with some spirit, but become sadly tedious, and the general gait throughout the volume is lame and halt, in such doggerel style as the following, in imitation of Butler's Hudibras:—

"The hinder ranks together crammed,
In narrow space are pressed or jammed.
Some cut their bowstrings in affright;
Some cast them down—some take to flight."

What Mr. Ellis might have achieved, with less ambition and more judgment, it is diffi-

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cult to say. This 'Rhyme Book' will prove a failure for lack, chiefly, of two things—common sense and consideration. Considerable skill in versifying the author has, but little of poetic genius. He has tasted, if not deeply drank, of what he calls in his preface the *Castilian* spring. His success would have been greater had he aimed at filling a hundred pages instead of a thousand.

The most astonishing announcement has yet to be made. Owing to the blundering of an Irish printer, and other mishaps, the present volume is only a small part of what the author intended to appear. "The poems now published in the 'Rhyme Book' are only disjointed fragments of the work I hoped to lay on the table of the Crystal Palace." To sing the history, public and domestic, of the British nation, through all its epochs of Gael, Cymry, Saxon, Norman, Dane—from Fingal and Arthur, in short, down to Nelson and Wellington, was the author's purpose, the prosecution of which will depend on the reception of this first little instalment. With such abundant activity of thought the power of Mr. Ellis might be made available to some important purpose. To think of this huge book being only the first of the labours of Hercules!

Sussex Archaeological Collections, relating to the History and Antiquities of the County.
Published by the Sussex Archaeological Society. Vol. 4. Smith.

THE encouragement given to local antiquarian research by the provincial gatherings of the London Archaeological Association and Institute, has been productive of good results in some of our country towns. It has been the means of bringing into existence several useful antiquarian societies, whose powers are brought to bear with a steady and constant attention upon limited fields, and whose labours are based upon a more accurate local historical knowledge. There are many difficulties, nevertheless, to encounter in the formation of these local societies. In the first place, a taste for archaeology has not yet been planted throughout the country in sufficient force to furnish everywhere the necessary materials for a directorial committee. In many places, as at York, Leicester, and elsewhere, archaeology is only supported by making it a branch of the studies of a more general system, under the title of philosophical and literary societies, and in such cases it is generally held in abeyance by the influence of pursuits which have obtained greater popularity. In other places, where separate archaeological societies have been formed, the difficulty has been, not in founding them, but in carrying them on. A sufficient number of members, and the consequent funds, are usually got together with ease, but it requires a certain number of zealous and well-informed individuals to set the machinery in motion, and to carry it on with energy; and these, in the case of archaeology especially, are often wanting. In consequence of this deficiency, we frequently see a few men join together with good intentions, and apparently with favourable prospects, but their exertions, after a first effort, gradually fall into a sort of apathy, from which they can only be roused by some influence from without. Perhaps the best remedy for this evil would be a central board, formed of a deputy from each local society, which should meet at fixed periods in London, to consult on their mutual operations, give and

receive aid and information, and profit by the experience of the antiquaries of the capital. By an arrangement of this kind the strong would support the weak, and the firm and steady would give encouragement to the faltering.

Down to the present time the most successful of these local societies has been the Archaeological Society of Sussex. The reason is, that it numbers in its ranks some very good and very zealous antiquaries. With sound and cautious scholars like Mark Anthony Lower, and earnest investigators like Messrs. Blaauw, Vernon Harcourt, Figg, and other names which appear on the list of active members, such a society could hardly fail to flourish. It is the only one which has been able to publish an annual volume of memoirs which rivals in magnitude and merit those of the older and more richly endowed societies of London and the continent. The volume before us is the fourth of these annual publications, and is much superior in bulk to any of its predecessors. It contains sixteen papers on subjects connected with the history and antiquities of the county of Sussex, its ancient churches and mansions, its local customs, and its records. Perhaps the best of these papers is that by Mr. Blaauw, 'On the Vessels of the Cinque Ports, and their Employment.' It is an interesting sketch of an important chapter of the history of the English navy, compiled carefully and judiciously. This is followed by a very elaborate—perhaps too elaborate—history of the Castle of Herstmonceux and its lords, by the Rev. E. Venables, which occupies about a quarter of the whole volume. It is a most desirable quality in papers on these, and indeed on all other subjects, that the writers should learn to condense their information, and give it as simply and in as few words as possible, and that they should, by distinguishing between what is of value and that which is trivial and unimportant, bring forward the former in strong relief. Herstmonceux, however, is an interesting ruin, not only architecturally but historically, as it has been more or less connected with some of the great events of our annals. Another of the interesting old mansions of the county of Sussex, is Streat Place, the successive residence of the Says, the Fienneses, the Gorings, and the Dobells, all names distinguished in the eventful history of the seventeenth century. This mansion, now occupied as a farm-house, is a good sample of the gentleman's house of the time of James I., and is here briefly described by Mr. Blaauw, who has enlivened his paper with some curious extracts from the account-book of one of the Dobells who lived during the earlier half of the last century. From these we learn that nearly at the same time when a wig cost 3*l.*, and a cap and gown were charged 5*l.* 11*s.*, five dozen of port wine cost no more than 3*l.* 17*s.* Mr. Lower has given an equally interesting and more amusing account of another relic of old domestic architecture—the Star Inn, at Alfriston, which appears to be as old as the reign of Henry VIII.

Among the papers of special interest in this volume is that by Mr. Figg on "The Drinker Acres," a sample of the tenantry customs of Sussex. In some of the parishes of Sussex, as at Bampton in Oxfordshire, and other places, a piece of land was held by the inhabitants in common, which was planted each year for the benefit of them all, and when the crop was on the ground, it was divided

among them according to certain customs of great antiquity. As local customs like these are among the last traces of a state of society with which we are very imperfectly acquainted, and as they are very rapidly disappearing, it is desirable that memorials of them should be preserved, that we may have the opportunity of comparing them together. These tenantry customs have not attracted attention till very recently, and they are now rare. It appears that in the Sussex parishes there was usually one piece set apart, under the title of 'the drinker,' or 'drinker acre,' because whoever obtained this had to pay a certain rent, which was to be spent in a drinking-bout at the time of making the division. It is a remnant of the jovial spirit of the olden time. Another interesting specimen of old local customs is furnished by the early custumal of Pevensey, here edited in its original Anglo-Norman, with an English version, by the Rev. Lambert B. Larking. The papers on church antiquities generally predominate in publications like the present. We find here descriptions of the churches of Stedham, Wilmington, Fletching, and Framfield. The first is remarkable for the paintings on its walls, recently discovered. At Wilmington are the remains of a priory, to which the church, Norman and early English, formerly belonged. The church of Fletching is also an interesting building of Norman and decorated work. The paper on Framfield church is a sort of parish history. There are a few miscellaneous papers in this Sussex volume of considerable interest. Perhaps one of the most popular essays in the book is that by Mr. Lower, on the old romance of Sir Bevis of Hampton. The same writer has given, in another paper, a few extracts from a class of documents of great importance for the light they throw on the condition and habits of our forefathers, the early wills of the inhabitants of Herstmonceux and some other parishes. They show especially the great value set upon articles of personal property in former days, and the great scarcity of money. Few persons died without a bequest to the church, 'for the recompence of his conscience,' as the phrase was, were it no more than a groat.

"These documents," says Mr. Lower, "prove the almost patriarchal simplicity of manners in this class and locality three hundred years ago. The bequests they contain reveal a state of society hardly advanced, in point of refinement, beyond that which existed a thousand years ago. Rapid strides had indeed been made in the interval by the great possessors of the soil; but among its lowly cultivators a remarkable adherence to an Anglo-Saxon sturdiness, frugality, and simplicity of life, may be inferred from their wills. The *naiveté* with which the testator bequeaths a couple of kine, a frieze doublet, a chair, or a brass 'pott,' to a child or a brother, is quite refreshing. Money, the earnest love of which, among all ranks, now produces so many evils, was in those days exceedingly scarce in the class under consideration; and hence a healthful contentment with the lot assigned them by Providence breathes in the very words in which they make their testamentary arrangements, illustrating the great truth, that real happiness by no means depends upon the abundance of things that a man possessest."

Mr. Durrant Cooper has contributed a paper of extracts from account-books of Sussex families in the seventeenth century, which also illustrate the condition of the Sussex gentry and yeomanry at that time; and Mr. Blaauw has edited a selection from the Apsley manuscripts of the same age. The latter contain interesting notices of persons

who held a high position in society under James I. and Charles I. The paper which is least to our taste in this otherwise meritorious volume, is that 'On the First and Last Days of the Saxon Rule in Sussex,' by the Rev. C. Bohun Smyth. It is a crude compilation, ill-arranged, and written in an affectedly inflated style. When Mr. Bohun Smyth tells us that "certainly there were heroes in those days, when Offa drew dykes with his victorious sword," we confess that the words give us a very unsatisfactory idea of Offa's mode of occupation. The following sentence, given as a translation from William of Malmesbury, conveys to us no meaning at all:—"There are certainly most ancient memorials here and there scattered through the years of the Christian era, after the manner of chroniclers and vernacular language." Again, after a needlessly pompous account of the battle of Hastings, our writer sums up the results of that great event in the following extraordinary statement:—"The landing of Julius Caesar was a great event in its day, and yet produced no such lasting results as the descent of William, which inspired the *Carmen de Bello Hastingensi*, improperly attributed to Lanfranc!" Our admiration of the *Carmen* certainly does not go so far as to make us look upon it as the chief result of William's landing. We will only add that the writer of this paper winds up by quarrelling with Shakspeare for not writing his dramas about Anglo-Saxon heroes who flourished in Sussex.

There is another matter with which we are inclined to find fault in our local antiquaries; they are sometimes too eager to write on subjects before they have studied them, and they use terms which they evidently misunderstand. These faults are, we allow, not very apparent in the Sussex volume, but there are one or two instances of the misuse of terms which we could wish to see avoided. Thus, the Rev. Vernon Harcourt, describing the paintings on the walls of a church, calls them *frescoes*, which everybody who writes on such subjects ought to know is an error. A *fresco* is a totally different thing. Again, the same writer imagines a church to be Saxon because it has narrow round-headed windows, and the name of the parish is Stedham. He, moreover, appears to believe in the eleven thousand virgins, and gives some symbolical explanations of saints' legends, which are not edifying.

Although this fourth year has produced a goodly volume to look at, which contains valuable and interesting papers, still we think it shows rather a decline than an increase in the activity of the society. Former volumes were more varied; British, Roman, and Saxon antiquities found their due place, and new and important discoveries were chronicled in the Society's pages. The present volume is entirely mediæval; it contains a few descriptions of churches and old houses, and some extracts from papers, all very good as fragments of Sussex topography, but it contributes little to archaeological science in general. This is the more to be regretted, as it has not arisen from the want of materials. Sussex is covered with tumuli, under which lie the Briton, the Roman, and the Saxon, with the various articles which his followers interred with him. There are intrenchments and earthworks of all ages, villas of the Romans, and other monuments, among which must not be forgotten the great Roman station of Petusey. A year can hardly have passed without some accidental discovery of early

remains, even if no one has had the spirit to put a spade into the ground, yet no occurrence of this kind is recorded in the yearly volume of transactions of the Sussex Archaeological Society. As this was not the case in preceding years, we fear it must be regarded as a sign that the zeal of our archaeological friends in Sussex is on the decline. We hope earnestly that this is not the case, and that another year may bring forth more abundant and varied fruits.

NEW NOVELS.

The Pappenheimers. Edited by Captain Ashton. Bentley.

THIS work bears strong internal evidence that both author and editor are accustomed to the use of other weapons than the pen. Love and war—no novel themes, it may be said—are the raw materials out of which the writer has woven, by the aid of much ingenious machinery, an exciting, yet sadly-pleasing story, partaking of the attributes of both—a story in which the tender passion and the 'noble science' are alternately pictured, in the gentleness and fervour of the one, and the manly chivalry and rude boldness of the other. But the 'pride, pomp, and circumstance of glorious war' are evidently the more favoured subject of the author. He is manifestly more at home in tented field than in lady's bower. There is scarcely a chapter in his book in which the sound of the trumpet drowns not that of the lute; and the sighs and tears of love and gentleness are not forgotten in the stirring and stormy scenes and passions of angry and boisterous warfare. And how could it well be otherwise in a story in which the main personages consist of many of the leading characters of the Thirty Years' War; whilst the subordinate actors are, with scarcely an exception, the creatures of one or other of the remarkable men who, in those times of turbulence and terror, contended so long, and with such bloody perseverance, for 'The Faith' they respectively professed, under the banners of the 'Emperor and the Catholic League,' or of 'Sweden and the Protestant Princes?' The reader will at once see the sturdy stuff of which those must be made whom a writer would place before us to represent the giants that were in the earth in those days. Who that has read of them can fail to have been impressed with the various qualities, good, bad, and indifferent, which marked the chief actors in the terrible strife of that eventful period? War, ambition, religion, were the gods of their idolatry, and love and peace but inferior divinities, and scarcely deemed worthy of the worship of men accustomed to pay their adorations to deities that exacted from them a deeper sentiment of devotion than they had either time or inclination to offer at the shrine of those representing less prominent principles. In Count Pappenheim, the hero of this story, after whom were named the celebrated regiments who fought around his almost invincible standard, and were designated by the name at the head of this notice, the kind of character we have briefly endeavoured to suggest to the reader's mind prevailed in a remarkable degree. We may here add, that the main feature of that story is the perpetual exhibition of the daring, proud, and impetuous spirit that burned in the restless frame of this extraordinary man, contrasted with the more reserved and cautious, but equally aspiring, mind that regulated the

actions of his brother commander, Von Tilly. It would be impossible to give an account of the many scenes and occasions in which these contrasts of character are exemplified by our author, who, commencing with the investment of Magdeburg, and closing with the battle of Lutzen, takes the reader through the ceaseless intervening contests which distinguished the progress of the war. The writer, however, has somewhat relieved these pictures by connecting with them two or three love stories, in which there are some passages of beauty and pathos. The course of true love runs not more smoothly than is usual in such cases; and a painful interest is excited in favour of a devoted girl, the daughter of parents in whose house Pappenheim is quartered, whose ardent affection he abuses, and who is romantically mixed up with his career, and driven to the verge of madness by a sense of her shame, the feeling that she holds not that warm place in his heart to which she is entitled, and the insulting persecutions to which she is exposed from a follower of Pappenheim's fortunes, whose hand she has refused, and whose love she has spurned. There are other female characters, but they exercise no particular influence over the story; and there is a larger proportion of heroes, and a less number of villains, in it than generally comes under the notice of novel readers. Wallenstein, Gustavus of Sweden, the Duke of Holstein, and many other princes, chiefs, and commanders of various grades and countries—the flower, indeed, of the European chivalry of the period—make their appearance during the progress of the war; but the multiplicity of the characters is such as to cause little interest to be felt in more than one or two of the more prominent personages.

The 'unbridled horde' of Pappenheimers are invested with nearly as much interest in these volumes as their leader, and their desperate valour and devoted attachment to their chief are the theme of many a chapter and the great feature of many a combat. The battle-field is described with lively vigour throughout, but the subject is not the most agreeable of novel reading. We advise the author to charge his next effort with less powder and shot.

Ravenscliffe. By the author of 'Emilia Wyndham.' Colburn and Co.

THIS book is a remarkable instance of how much may be done with comparatively few materials. An undergraduate of Cambridge is publicly horsewhipped by a fellow-collegian, and fails to resent the outrage from deference to principles which, though they forbid him to fight a duel, have not prevented him from habitually resorting to language provocative of attacks such as one acting under the influence and claiming the shelter of such principles ought most religiously to avoid. Such is the punishment inflicted by Marcus Fitzroy upon Randal Langford. The feat of the former is triumphantly celebrated at the wine-parties of his friends. He is the hero of the hour. He has "thrashed his principles into him, or out of him," the "pitiful rascal!" "I care not a button which. I've had my revenge, and he may take his—or let it alone, it's all one to me." But the victim of this ignominious flagellation, how does he demean himself under the degrading infliction? With "something fearful in the dark cloud upon his face," and followed by a "low hiss from the rude boys and fellows of the commoner

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sort," the "undergraduates looking on in a kind of appalled silence," he "slowly moved away" to his college rooms, there to pass the remainder of that bitter day, and the long succeeding night, in a stormy contest of feelings that could not fail to agitate, with fearful violence, a nature so passionate, so fanatical, proud, and stern. In the morning he turns his back upon the University—for ever, and retires to Ravenscliffe, the seat of his father, the descendant of a sour independent of Cromwell's army, in the wildest part of the Northumbrian hills. There he lives on, for a certain period, in the indulgence of his moody humour, in the society of parents and amid scenes whose harsh and rugged characteristics form but too congenial a resemblance to those of his own rough nature. He subsides into a sort of gloomy tranquillity, seeking refuge, however, from the outrage against all that is dear to man, to which he has been exposed, in the consoling resolution of "maintaining henceforth and for ever a spirit of implacable unforgiveness," in the conviction that "life will present some opportunity or other for exacting payment."

But we have hitherto shown only the dark shades of the picture. All, however, is not dark, either in the incidents of the story, or in the character of the remarkable being who forms its chief feature and constitutes its main interest. There are influences to which the hardest natures ultimately yield, and before which the stony heart becomes a heart of flesh. The author of these volumes is in nothing more successful than in the art by which those gradual changes of character, in the main personages of a story, are brought about by the almost imperceptible operation of influences. Randal's severe character is not, after all, so much the result of nature as of education; and woman's charms fail not to exercise the same power over him, when once caught in those toils from which no resolution, it seems, can save mankind or woman-kind, as over others apparently of more susceptible and impressionable dispositions. The only difference is that, in proportion to the severity of the character on which the light of woman's affection sheds its beams, is the strength and passion of the devotion which it offers to that which henceforth becomes the very sun of its existence, and the exacting nature of the demand it makes for a return of the sentiment which has gained such an ascendancy over itself.

These remarks will have prepared the reader for the appearance of a new character on this hitherto darkened stage. Accordingly, the scene is presently enlivened by the entrance of one whose gentle presence brings a temporary calm to that dark spirit which has so long been brooding over the events of the past and the possibilities of the future. This, however, prepares the way for further development of a story, which soon relapses into a series of occurrences that bring with them more of disaster and desolation than attends even the earlier stages of its course. An angel, in the shape of Eleanor Wharncliffe, comes to visit the Ravenscliffe family, and takes captive the heart of the dark Randal, who becomes a greatly altered man, until circumstances reveal to him the terrible secret that he has married a woman who cherishes an undying attachment for the very man at whose hands he has received the castigation we have named at the outset—who has never had the courage to disclose to him the real cause of an undefinable some-

thing he has observed in her general demeanour, and which has caused him many an anxious doubt and painful presentiment—but, under the impression that she has been abandoned by Fitzroy, and acting under the influence of a good-natured but worldly mother, is led from her pure, gentle, and affectionate nature, to make a sacrifice of herself in order to secure, as she hopes, the happiness of another. But we must forbear entering more into detail, lest we deprive the reader of the interest he will feel in the stirring progress of the occurrences to which the foregoing discovery leads the way.

NOTICES.

A Technical Dictionary: or, a Dictionary explaining the Terms used in the Arts and Sciences. By George Crabb, Esq., M.A. Maxwell.

THE author of this truly wonderful little work seems determined to astonish the world by the originality of his definitions. Where on earth he got hold of some of his meanings for words would puzzle wiser philosophers than we are. Some of them are gems of nonsense of the first brilliancy. He is peculiarly rich in his natural history and nautical terms. "Zoology," he tells us, is "that branch of natural history which treats of animals that are comprehended under the six classes—namely, the *Mammalia*, *Aves*, *Amphibia*, *Pisces*, *Insecta*, and *Vermes*; but," says Mr. Crabb, "in this work 'Zoology' is used in its restricted sense," and "includes only the *Mammalia* and *Amphibia*." The following are very curious specimens of "Mammalia and Amphibia":—e.g., "Cormorant, the water-raven, which is remarkably voracious;" "Centipes, a fish, otherwise called *Scolopendra*, which when it has swallowed a hook, will throw it up again;" "Chama, a genus of testaceous animals, the animal of which is a *Tethys*, shell univalve, hinge with a callous gibbosity;" "Dolphin, of the genus *Delphinus*, swims with great velocity, preys upon fishes, and adheres to whales as they leap out of the water"!!! "Guinea-pigs," however, Mr. Crabb rightly places under his head of Zoology; he informs us that it is "an animal between a rabbit and a mouse." Mr. Crabb's definition of "Cork" is highly original—"the bark of *Quercus suber*, formerly employed as an astringent." Among his vegetables we have "*Chamarpitys*, the herb ground-pine, of the genus *Cressa*"—a statement which will be received by botanists as new. The chemist and mineralogist now learn that "*Manganese*" is "*Magnesia*, or *Magnesium*, a fossil used in purifying glass." A "Gulf," in geography, is described as "a part of the sea running between two lands called straits." "A gunner," we are told, is "an officer appointed to manage the artillery," and the "Gun-room" is "an apartment in a ship for a gunner." Some of the explanations are amusing, owing to their simplicity, such as a "Blood-sucker; an epithet for any animal; as a leech, which sucks blood from a living body to which it is applied." A "Cockswain" is a man who has charge of a cock-boat. Among the scientific terms we find "Cobbing," with the meaning of which the author deserves to be acquainted for writing such nonsense. Mr. Crabb styles himself a "Master-of-Arts"; he might add, "and Murderer-of-Sciences." A good dictionary of technical terms is a desideratum; but such a work cannot be drawn up by any one individual. To do it well, a co-operation of competent persons is required; all of them, too, should be men of authority in their respective departments.

Early Oriental History. By Professor Eadie, D.D. Griffin and Co.

PROFESSOR EADIE'S work is one of the treatises of the historical division of the 'Encyclopædia Metropolitana.' Part of the contents of the volume on 'Early Oriental History' had already appeared, under various titles, in the quarto edition of the 'Encyclopædia.' The chapter on hieroglyphics, for instance, was furnished to the original edition

by Renouard, who also contributed many topographical and geographical papers, here selected and combined. The late Bishop Russel, of Glasgow, wrote several articles on Egypt, which are also embodied in Dr. Eadie's work. But with these exceptions, and others of less importance, this is a new and original treatise. The volume contains the early annals of Egypt, Nineveh, Babylon, Persia, Lydia, Phrygia, and Phœnicia. The chief object has been to present an accurate and popular history of these nations, with special descriptions of their antiquities, religion, language, customs, and other subjects of their internal as well as their general history. The best authorities have been consulted and used in the preparation of the work—such as Heeren, Wilkinson, Lepsius, Champollion, Layard, Rawlinson. To monumental antiquities particular prominence has been given, and of the numerous illustrations of the work a large proportion refer to these. Sketches are given of the Assyrian marbles, and other treasures of the British Museum, as well as copies from the illustrated works of authors, such as Rosellini and Sir R. K. Porter. There are about a hundred and fifty illustrations in all, together with a good index, a list of contents, and a chronological table.

Bericht über die Kriegs Operationen der Russischen Truppen gegen die Ungarischen Rebellen in Jahre, 1849. Williams and Norgate.

Now that M. Kossuth is being lionized throughout England, anything and everything connected with the Hungarian war commands a degree of interest. This is a semi-official account of the Russian intervention in Hungary, from the pen of a Muscovite field-officer; and since many of our readers may look into the work, we think it our duty to warn them that the statements it contains must be received with the utmost caution, and that nothing whatever is to be either believed or disbelieved on Russian authority. As an additional subject of inquiry in the hands of a critical reader, the book is important, and even valuable. It will be sure to mislead a man who takes it as his sole source of information. The statistics of the Russian army of intervention, its composition, numbers, and divisions, are very minutely and correctly given; but nothing is said of the composition of the regiments, and the lamentable deficiency in dress and provisions, which caused such heavy losses to the Russian troops in Hungary. A too confident reader would, moreover, from this book, gather very strange ideas as to the murderous nature of Russian sabres and guns, for the number of Hungarians slain, at every encounter with the Czar's troops, is perfectly astounding. On the other hand, the offensiveness of the Magyar weapons would be equally startling. We see the Russian troops engaged for hours, and exposed to frequent discharges of grape and canister from formidable batteries of 12-pounders, to the fire of the Honved tirailleurs, and the charge of the Hussars; and, after all, the grape-shot, the musketry, and the sabres, prevailed only against three of the Russians, two of whom were killed, while one man was wounded! In the Caucasus every engagement costs the Russians exactly eight men, neither more nor less, while the whole population of Circassia is killed once a-year by the Czar's soldiers. It appears that the same good fortune attended the Russian arms in Hungary. The march routes, however, seem pretty correct, and throw some light on Görgey's retreat from Komorn.

A French Grammar. Eighth Edition. By C. J. Delille. Whittaker and Co.

A SCHOOL-BOOK which, amidst countless competition, has reached its eighth edition, stands in need of little recommendation. Mr. Delille's 'French Grammar,' however, has merits deserving special notice. In the first place, it comprehends in one volume of moderate size, a complete course of instruction in the French language, its contents being such as are usually spread over various lesson-books. Thus, besides a theoretical and practical grammar, it contains copious vocabularies, numerous exercises, and a series of rudimentary and progressive lessons in reading and translation. The grammar is divided into two parts, the one in

English, the other in French. Particular attention is given to the pronunciation and the idioms of the language. Phrases and dialogues are appended, in order to aid in conversation, and directions and examples, both for business and familiar correspondence. In an 'etymological index,' and a chapter on 'pronunciation with diagrams,' the latter taken from a recent work of Duquesnois, first appearing in this edition, M. Delille shows that he is alive to any improvements in his profession, and his book denotes unusual acquaintance with the general literature of his subject. In the explanations of the rules, and applications of the principles of grammar, which too often are laid down in an empirical and unsatisfactory manner, intelligent information is given. Good taste is also shown in the selection of English and French extracts. Various hints in the appendix, as to methods of teaching, will be found of much use, especially to governesses and others engaged in tuition. When we add that M. Delille is French examiner in the London University and Eton College, and teacher in the Blue Coat School, and other institutions, the merit of his book is what might be expected from one who has reached so high a position in the educational world.

Occasional Meditations. By Joseph Hall, D.D.

Bishop of Norwich. Pickering.

BISHOP HALL is not only one of the most learned, sound, and pious of our old English divines, but one of the most ingenious and original writers in our language. His style is quaint and artificial, but his thoughts usually great and striking. In the present reprint we have one of his lighter works, of the origin of which an account is given in the original dedication of the volume to Lord Doncaster by Robert Hall, son of the bishop. He found the papers, it seems, loose, and lying about in his father's study, at the time he was engaged on his large work, 'The Contemplations on the Old and New Testament,' and obtained permission to arrange and publish them. In a prefatory note, the Bishop explains that it was his custom to note down any passing thoughts and meditations. "Everything we see," he says, "reads new lectures of wisdom and piety. No object should pass us without some use." With this feeling, and hopes that others might learn to read God's great book of nature by reading his little treatise, the good Bishop consented to publish his 'Occasional Meditations.' They amount to a hundred and forty, on all manner of topics, some of them on very simple and homely subjects, such as 'On the Blowing of the Fire,' 'On the Sound of a Cracked Bell,' 'On a Pair of Spectacles,' 'On the Sight of a Raven,' 'On an Arm Benumbed.' Some of the meditations are whimsical and strange; but, in general, they are worthy of the author's name. A devotional tract is added in this reprint, entitled 'Breathings of the Devout Soul.' The dates of the original publication should have been given.

SUMMARY.

The almanacks for 1852 continue rapidly to appear. Of those this week received, one of the best and cheapest is *Dietrichsen and Hannay's Royal Almanack*, which has reached its fifteenth year, and is deservedly established in public favour, both for the copiousness and accuracy of its information. Of annuaries in the pocket-book form, *Pawsey's Fashionable Repository* is well got up, and contains an unusual amount of original poetry and other literary matter. *Fulcher's Sudbury Pocket-book* is also rich in original matter of the kind usual in these publications. We notice that many of these annuals adopt the plan now so common in weekly journals, of offering prizes and rewards for essays, enigmas, &c., so as to tempt increase or continuance of patronage. *Raphael's Prophetic Almanack* is an impudent imposition on public credulity, pretending to be based on astrology as a true science, and attracting the notice of the vulgar by hieroglyphics and predictions. Among the predictions are such safe generalities as that "the year aspect of Venus and Mars on the 7th brings violence or scandal to a fair lady." This is pretty

likely to be true out of a population of so many millions. In another month, "The attention of government directed to the agricultural interests of the country." This is also a pretty safe prediction for any month of any year. Raphael is no fool.

The *Collected Edition of Douglas Jerrold's Writings* is carrying on in weekly numbers and monthly parts. Jerrold's writing is very unequal, the story and the style sometimes limping tiresomely; but even then detached thoughts and expressions keep up interest, and few pages pass without presenting a good idea or a good joke. The typography is very creditable to the *Punch* office press. In the series of *Richardson's Rural Handbooks*, published by Orr, the number on "The Cow," by M. M. Milburn, a prize essayist of the Royal Agricultural Society, will be found a valuable manual for all connected with dairy husbandry, from the breeder down to the dairymaid. These rural handbooks are very neatly and cheaply got up. The subjects of other numbers are Draining, Soils and Manures, Pests of the Farm, the Hive, Domestic Fowl, the Pig, the Horse; the whole forming a valuable and interesting agricultural miscellany. A new edition of *The Comic English Grammar* will tempt many to a second reading, and introduce to new circles this clever and witty *jeu d'esprit*, with Leech's happy illustrations. *Thoughts for the Medical Student*, an introductory address at the opening of the medical department of King's College this winter, by Professor Bowman, contains sensible and seasonable advice to medical students, whether in London or the provinces. *Copies of Correspondence and Papers relative to the Establishment of a Representative Legislature at the Cape of Good Hope*, contain much documentary matter of special interest in the present state of affairs.

Of pulpit discourses the issue from the press is, as at all seasons, vast and incessant; few sermons, however, relating to matters within the province of a literary or scientific journalist. There are occasional exceptions, as in two received this week, by Professor Fitzgerald of Dublin, and Archdeacon Hare. The title of the first is, *The Connexion of Morality and Religion*, preached at an ordination held by Archbishop Whately. As a sermon it is very dry, such as we might expect a professor of ethics to read before an ex-professor of logic; but the notes are learned and valuable. The first of these relates to a subject on which Newman's book has raised much discussion, the distinction in the proof of Scripture miracles and subsequent legends. The other sermon, by Archdeacon Hare, entitled *Education the necessity of Mankind*, was preached at the laying of the foundation-stone of a school for the middle classes at Hurstpierpoint. It is a plea for the better education of the people, under the superintendence of the clergy. As the educational will soon become more and more a prominent subject, it is well to hear the views of all parties on so important a matter. Temperance and teetotal readers will find in a treatise by William Kelly, *The Testimony of the Bible to the Use and Abuse of Wine*, a sensible and scholar-like statement of the arguments on the subject from the Hebrew and Greek Scriptural terminology, and from ancient Jewish and Christian usages. Under a controversial title, *The Test of Experience, or, the Voluntary Principle in the United States*, a little book by John Howard Hinton, contains much interesting statistical information as to the churches, schools, and religious and charitable institutions of America. Among reprints or new editions of standard or popular works, we may note *Cyrus Redding on Wines*, in Bohn's 'Illustrated Library'; this third edition containing a considerable amount of new matter, and recording various changes made by time and commerce in wine production and trade. Mr. Bentley has new, cheap, and good editions of *Paddiana*, and of *Sam Slick the Attaché*.

GERMAN PERIODICALS.

THE numbers 40 to 43 of the 'Grenzboten,' contain essays on German Romanticism, on Russian Monopolies, on Lord Byron, and on the Foreign Legion in Algeria. The paper on German Romanticism

is by Dr. Julian Schmidt, and it is written for the purpose of defeating the last attempts which the exploded romantic school of German writers is just now making to regain its former ascendancy. Baron Eichendorff, almost the last surviving member of the old school, has lately brought out a pamphlet for that purpose. It has, however, found a full contradiction in Dr. Schmidt's essay, and one which will, doubtless, be satisfactory to all but Baron Eichendorff himself. The chapter on Russian Monopolies is very amusing. It is in strange contrast with the boasts of protection to the interests of trade and industry in which the partisans of the Czar indulge. We learn that at the present day there are not less than twenty-three large monopolies in Russia. Among these is the right of levying tolls on the emperor's highways, of which a lease is given to a Russian grandee or speculator, who underlets a portion of the empire to minor capitalists—mostly Jews. The most exorbitant tolls are demanded and enforced, for the barrier is not raised until the money be paid, unless the traveller knows the customs of the country, and, without paying anything, removes the obstruction, and fights his way through by main force of fist and whip.

The 'Halle Monthly Review' for Science and Literature has a valuable paper on the Rigveda, by Professor Roth of Tübingen, and a capital series of letters on the artists Rauch, Cornelius, and Kaulbach. In his paper on the Rigveda, Professor Roth does full justice to Professor Wilson's translation of the Rig-veda-Sanhita.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Alexander on Isaiah, Vol. 2, 8vo, cloth, 16s.
- Adecock's Engineers' Pocket Book, 1852, roan, 6s.
- American Cotton Spinner, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
- Babylon and Jerusalem, translated from the German, 2s. 6d.
- Barker's Beauty of Flowers, post 8vo, cloth, 8s. 6d.
- Barth's (Rev. D.) Stories for Christian Children, cl., 2s. 6d.
- Barwell's Good in Everything, square, cloth, 3s. 6d.
- Beasley's Formulary, fifth edition, 18mo, cloth, 6s.
- Best's (Mrs.) History of a Family Bible, 18mo, cloth, 2s.
- Casket Riffle, 18mo, cloth, 2s.
- Beecroft's (G.) Companion to Iron Trade, half-bound, 10s.
- Bible Coins, 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
- Blencow's Sermons, Vol. 2, third edition, 7s. 6d.
- Bowring's (Dr.) Matins and Vespers, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
- Book of Beauty, by Mrs. Kirkland, 4to, cloth, £2 2s.
- Brewer's (Dr.) Guide to Roman History, 18mo, cl., 3s. 6d.
- Brodie's (Sir B.), Physiological Researches, 8vo, cloth, 6s.
- Buff's Letters on Physics of the Earth, 12mo, cloth.
- Byron's (Lord) Tales and Poems, 8vo, cloth, 10s.
- Chalmers (Dr. T.), Reminiscences of, post 8vo, 7s. 6d.
- Cummings' Voices of the Day, new edition, 12mo, cl., 7s.
- Davies' (H.) Diseases of Lungs and Heart, post 8vo, cl., 7s.
- Death Flag, by Miss Crump, 3 vols. post 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.
- Dempsey's (G. D.) The Builder's Guide, 8vo, cloth, 15s. 6d.
- Drury's Arundine Cami, fourth edition, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
- Ewart on Agricultural Buildings, folio, 21s.
- Gaultier's Ballads, square, post 8vo, cloth, 8s. 6d.
- Good Shepherd and his Little Lambs, square, cloth, 3s. 6d.
- Goodwin's Problems and Examples, 2nd edition, 8vo, 6s.
- Hamilton's Housekeeper, 1s. 6d. (sewed, 1s.)
- Hand Atlas of Physical Geography, 8vo, cloth, 12s. 6d.
- Hawthorn's Scarlet Letter, cloth, 1s. 6d. (sewed, 1s.)
- Hirsch's Short German Grammar, 12mo, cloth, 2s.
- Return of Ulysses, with short Grammar, 12mo, 6s.
- Home Book of the Picturesque, 4to, cloth, gilt, 36s.
- Hood's Philosophy of Laughter, 1s. 6d.
- Hunt's Elementary Physics, 12mo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
- James (Rev. A.), The Young Man's Friend, 12mo, cloth.
- Jamieson's (R.) Eastern Manners, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
- John Gilpin, 6d. (coloured, 1s.)
- Lee's Anecdotes of Animals, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
- Martin's Intellectual Reading Book, 12mo, cloth, 3s.
- Expositor, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
- Primer, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
- Spelling Book, 12mo, cloth, 1s.
- Montgomery's (R.) Church of the Invisible, 32mo, 3s. 6d.
- Moore's Irish Melodies, royal 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.
- morocco, by Hayday, £2 12s. 6d.
- Mornings with Mamma, 6 vols. post 8vo, each vol. 3s.
- Overman's (F.) The Moulder and Founder's Guide, 6s.
- Parley's Annual, 1852, cloth, 5s.
- Birth Day Gift, square, cloth, 3s. 6d.
- Peters' (W.) William and other Poems, 12mo, cloth, 4s.
- Pickering's Christian Classics, cloth, 2s.; sewed, 1s. 6d.
- Plain Sermons on Various Subjects, 18mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
- Plato's Apology, Crito, Phaedo, Life of Socrates, 12mo, 5s.
- Richardson's (Sir J.) Arctic Expedition, 2 vols. £1 11s. 6d.
- Roberts' (M.) Popular History of Mollusca, 10s. 6d.
- Rogers' (J.) Vegetable Cultivator, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
- Sandford and Merton, by Day, new edition, 3s. 6d.
- Schoolcraft's (H. R.) 30 Years' War, royal 8vo, cloth, 21s.
- Scripture Lessons on Old Testament, post 8vo, cloth, 6s.
- Smith's (H. S.) Officers in Rifle Brigade, 1800-1850, 10s.
- 85th Volunteers, 8vo, 7s. 6d.
- Solicitor's Diary, 1852, 2s. 6d. (half bound, 6s.)
- Stephens' (Right Hon. Sir J.) Lectures on France, 24s.
- Visiting my Relations and its Results, 12mo, cloth, 6s.

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Watson's (C.) *Help to Family Prayer*, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
 Wilkins' (H. M.) *Notes for Latin Lyrics*, 12mo, 4s. 6d.
 Wood and Bache's *Dispensatory of United States*, £1 12s.
 Woolrych on *Legal Time*, 8vo, boards, 7s. 6d.
 Wordsworth's *Greece*, Royal 8vo, cloth, 25s.
 Wycliffe's (J.) *Three Treatises on the Church*, 7s. 6d.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

A NUMBER of new or interesting facts connected with electro-telegraphic communication have been announced within the last week. First in importance is the opening of the submarine telegraph between Dover and Calais for public use, on the 13th Nov. For some time previously the communication between the coasts had been completed, and the wires, tested daily, had continued to act perfectly, notwithstanding the prevalence of equinoctial gales and tide-currents of unusual strength. The English end of the cable had been hitherto placed at the South Foreland lighthouse; but on Thursday morning, the laying down of insulated wires to the telegraphic office at Dover was completed, and preparations made for transmitting despatches. Frequent messages passed and repassed during the morning. One was brought by a mounted express from the office of the South-Eastern Railway Company, forwarding to Paris the prices of the English Funds. The one o'clock prices of the French Funds were posted at the Stock Exchange at twenty minutes to three. The apparatus of Messrs. Brett and Henley, as well as that of Messrs. Cooke and Wheatstone, was in use. The success of the undertaking is now established, and we trust that the two governments will maintain the same good understanding hitherto shown in rendering every facility for the completion of the work.

The curiosity of passengers in Fleet-street and the Strand was on Friday attracted by the laying down of new wires between the City and Charing-cross. Like those of the submarine telegraph, they are cased in gutta-percha, and are laid in zinc tubes beneath the outer edge of the pavement, from half a foot to a foot below the surface. A reduction of price has taken place within the last few days in the English lines, which will lead to far wider use of telegraphic communication.

At a telegraphic congress held lately at Vienna, it was agreed by the deputies from various lines that the same alphabet should be used through all the German-Austrian telegraphic union, and that the apparatus in use at Vienna be adopted. There will be a general treasury for international despatches; the receipts to be divided according to the length of wire used. Vienna journals announce, also, that Dr. Steinheil, director of the Austrian telegraphic lines, has discovered the means, by a simple apparatus, of causing the electric fluid to travel any distance, however great, and that as quickly, and as safely, as the shortest distances. It has hitherto been found impossible to cause the telegraph to transmit signals for a greater distance than a few hundred miles; so that Dr. Steinheil's discovery is the most important recently made in connexion with this marvellous invention. Being adapted to existing lines, all lines may be united, and despatches can be forwarded from one extremity to the other without any interruption. One immense advantage of the discovery will be to prevent delay from the crowding of despatches at any particular station,—as, if they cannot be forwarded by the direct line, they can be forwarded just as quickly by any other line, even that which may be the most round-about. Thus, if the lines were established, a despatch might be forwarded from London to Paris, *via* Trieste or St. Petersburg, as quickly as by Calais. Dr. Steinheil keeps secret for the present the nature of his discovery.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

'THE Great Exhibition' still remains in large type as a heading for occasional notices in the daily papers, and a lingering interest is felt by the public in whatever bears on the subject. We noticed last week the important meeting of the Commissioners, and their report as to the surplus

funds. During the present week the chief events to note are these:—A document appeared on the 10th inst., signed by Mr. Digby Wyatt, for the Executive Committee, intimating—1st, the surrender of the building to the Contractors on the 1st of December; 2nd, the removal at that time of the cranes, platforms, and various appliances for aiding exhibitors to remove their goods; 3rd, that arrangements, after the 1st of December, must be made with the Contractors for any goods left in the building; 4th, the non-liability of the Contractors, any more than hitherto of the Commissioners, for any damage, loss, or accident, arising from necessity of removing goods from one part of the building to another, and collecting the remaining articles into one spot. This last clause has a very desolate and dreary sound. It is like the closing up of the ranks of a routed and retreating army, or the gathering of fragments from a shipwreck. To think of the last vestiges of the world's show collected into some corner of Switzerland or the Sonderbund! The removal of goods goes on rapidly, and not many articles of value now remain. On Tuesday the Queen visited the palace, and stayed some time watching the processes of dispersion. Mr. Riddle, the chief American Commissioner, has written a very sensible and handsome farewell letter to the Executive Committee. He speaks with especial praise of the tact, energy, temper, and patience shown by Captain Owen of the Royal Engineers, in fulfilling his difficult and varied duties. The dissatisfaction with the prize awards spreads wider out of doors. Among other complaints, Mr. Pugin is charged with influencing unfairly the awards of the jury in class 30, section stained glass, he being understood to be principal or partner in the stained glass works of Messrs. Hardman and Co., ecclesiastical brass workers, who have received the only medal given to English exhibitors for stained glass. Mr. Baillie, one of the first English manufacturers, who obtained the large silver medal of the Society of Arts for enamelling in glass in 1833, and again in 1837, and whose works in the Exhibition obtained general admiration, has appealed to the Royal Commissioners against the jury decision. The 'Council of thirty' have certainly obtained an unenviable name in the records of the Exhibition. In several instances the decisions of the most competent judges have been set aside—as in regard to astronomical instruments, where the report of Herschell and Brewster was disregarded, and in the musical department, where a unanimous decision of the jury was reversed. Some of their awards are as strange as their errors of omission in other cases. While not one award is made to a Chronometer, an important branch of manufacture, and of which admirable specimens were exhibited, a prize medal is given to a foreign count, "for the extraordinary application of mechanism to his expanding figure of a man," a huge toy, fit chiefly for a tailor's dummy; and another medal to "a platina alembic, to hold 250 pints, all in one piece without solder or seam." There were men of science and intellect on the list of chairmen of juries, and we are surprised they allowed their judgment to be overruled by the stolid admiration of inferior objects manifested by some of the noble and learned Councillors.

The discovery of two new satellites of Uranus is announced by Mr. Lassell, of Liverpool. They are interior to the two bright satellites first discovered by Sir W. Herschell, generally known as the second and fourth. Mr. Lassell first saw them on the 24th of Oct., and again on the 28th and 30th of the month, and also on Nov. 7th, with a magnifying power of 778, or the twenty-feet equatorial. They are very faint, not half the brightness of the two conspicuous ones. The periods of revolution are almost exactly four days for the outermost, and two and a half for the closest. Mr. Lassell says he has never yet been able to recognise the first satellite announced by Sir William Herschell, to which he ascribed a period of revolution of five days and twenty-one hours.

The 'Zoological problem' stated in so graphic a way in 'Dickens' Household Words,' and thence

copied into all the papers, about the boa constrictor at the Zoological Gardens, which had swallowed a blanket, has been solved in rather an unexpected way. It will be remembered that on the evening of October 3rd, two rabbits were put into the cage. During the night the watchman, going his rounds as usual, was surprised to see the rabbits hopping about in a very unconcerned manner, and turning his light to the serpent, was astonished to find it in the act of swallowing the rough blanket-wrapper which had been put into the cage at the setting in of the cool weather. It is supposed that in the dark the boa had made a snap at one of the rabbits, and missing his aim, had caught a mouthful of the blanket. The watchman and head keeper, who had been summoned, thought that the mistake would soon be discovered, and the unsavoury supper disgorged. It appears, however, that owing, as Mr. Mitchell, the Secretary of the Garden thinks, to deficiency of palate in the serpent, nothing wrong was suspected, and the affrighted keepers, returning at early morning, saw the last two inches of the thick railway blanket disappearing down the serpent's throat. From that morning the serpent kept in its customary half-torpid state after a good meal, only drinking somewhat oftener than usual. The blanket gradually passed several feet down the body. On the 28th of October, in the notice referred to, it is asked, "Will he manage it somehow, or will he die? that is the problem." We are happy to announce that on Sunday morning last the blanket was safely disgorged, and the boa is doing as well as may be expected.

The winter campaign of the learned societies has commenced with great spirit, the opening meetings of most of them being marked both by valuable communications and crowded attendance. We are glad to observe, among the provincial societies, that the Royal Physical still is in vigorous existence at Edinburgh, the 81st session being last week opened. It may be well to call the attention of young men to the advantages of literary and scientific pursuits, and the pleasures of these honourable and social gatherings.

The Winter Session of the New College, Edinburgh, was opened last week with an introductory address by the Rev. Dr. Cunningham, successor of Dr. Chalmers, as Principal of the College. The institution is chiefly intended as a Theological School connected with the Free Church of Scotland, but has other Chairs attached, one of which, on Natural History, is held by Dr. Fleming, the zoologist. On November 11th the Philosophical Institution of the same city, was opened for the session by Sir David Brewster, who gave an able address. Among the lecturers announced for the season are some distinguished names, and the institution seems to be conducted in a higher tone than is usual in similar places of popular instruction and amusement. Hugh Miller, the geologist, and Isaac Taylor, author of the 'Natural History of Enthusiasm,' are to deliver courses of lectures. In the University of Edinburgh, the opening of which we recorded last week, Principal Lee is reading a course of Moral Philosophy Lectures, in room of Professor Wilson, whose illness precludes him from any public duty.

A curious and valuable literary treasure has been sent to the library of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, by Dr. Smith, Bishop of Victoria, Hong-Kong. It is a Chinese work 'On the Geography and History of Foreign Nations,' by Seu-ke-yu, Governor of the Province of Fokien. Seu-ke-yu is a man of high official station, a distinguished scholar, and very liberal in his views. He commences the geographical part of his book with a statement of the spherical form of the earth, as opposed to the universal belief in China of its being a vast level area, of which the Celestial Empire occupies the central and most considerable part. Numerous maps illustrate the text, being tolerably correct copies from European atlases, the names given in Chinese characters. The work is in six volumes, very well printed, and instead of binding, each part is contained in a wooden case, ingeniously folding, and fastened with ivory pins. We expect that this work of the Governor of Foochow will spread a taste for barbarian studies, and that trans-

ditions will begin to be made of European works of learning and science into Chinese.

James Montgomery, the poet, reached his eightieth year a few days since, on which occasion he planted an oak on the lawn in front of the Sheffield Infirmary, in which he has taken much interest ever since its foundation, nearly sixty years ago.

The Leipsic Michaelmas book-fair lists show activity in the German literary and publishing world. From the end of April to the end of September, 3600 works were published, and 110 maps, atlases, &c. Nearly 1150 new works are announced as on point of publication, about half of them on scientific or useful subjects.

Before many days the last vestige of old Montague House will disappear, only a few yards now remaining of the outer wall, round the temporary entrance door of the British Museum. We advise the lovers of historic recollections to take a last look at these venerable bricks, which are haunted with many strange associations. The new building, with its architectural splendours, and its open area within the massive iron and gilt railing, has already caused the Museum of former days to pass away like a dissolving view.

Henry Heine, the German poet, whom his countrymen insist on comparing with Lord Byron, has published a collection of the poems of his later years, under the title of 'Romancers.' The book, which all the German papers concur in eulogizing, and a large edition of which was sold within a few days after its publication, is divided into three parts, Histories, Lamentations, and Hebrew Melodies.

Old London recollections have been this week awakened by the Lord Mayor's show. How many literary and historical associations are connected with this annual pageant. If no written records were extant, Hogarth's picture, in the 'Busy Apprentice,' would alone make it classic. We do not sympathise with those enlightened Progressistas who would abolish the whole thing as a relic of barbarous times. We believe the spectacle still rouses many a youth in Cockneydom to laudable ambition, and while it is a day of dissipation to the idle, it still urges the busy apprentice to diligence and perseverance. But while we vote for a Lord Mayor's show, both on grounds of classic taste and social utility, we are glad to notice changes made in accordance with the spirit of the time. Some attempt was made last year to give a more rational appearance to the pageant. But although the sea was good of emblematic representations of the quarters of the globe, and industry, peace, plenty, commerce, and other personifications, the procession of 1850 was a source only of merriment and ridicule. This year the chief features of the show have been antiquarian instead of commercial, and a display was made of numerous knights in armour of various periods. A piece of the official programme is worth recording, as a literary curiosity.

A troop of twenty knights,
(three abreast) armed,
all mounted,

plumed, with richly-mounted trappings.
Mounted Squire. Halberdiers. Mounted Squire.
Knight of the Sheriff of London
armed, armour of the reign of Henry VIII.
mounted on a charger, plumed, with gold
and green coloured trappings, with the sheriff's
arms emblazoned thereon.

Did Mr. Samuel Warren write this blank-verse manifesto? It is not unlike the style of 'The Lily and the Bee.' Which of the officers of the Corporation proposed twenty knights to go three abreast? Was it the Comptroller, or the Secondary, or the Leader, or the Gresham Professor of Mathematics? The armed knights were well enough in their way, but the whole thing was turned into farce by the pied and spotted palfreys on which they were mounted. An Elizabethan knight, armed cap-à-pie, on one of Batty's dancing horses, made a ludicrously comic centaur. We must, however, omit to award praise to the learned Recorder for the skill with which he constructs his vires in introducing the successive Lord Mayors of the Lords of the Exchequer, at Westminster Hall. It is a style of composition as much *sui generis* as are the éloges of the French Academy. On the

present occasion, in reciting the biography of the new Mayor, the Recorder said "he had had the good fortune to receive his education from the venerable parent of one who had become one of the most distinguished prelates of the country." What a magnificent circumlocution for saying that he got his schooling at Dr. Thwackem's, of Bury St. Edmunds! After recounting the various dates of his civic offices till reaching the chair, he said he had "added another name to the long list of that illustrious roll." And alluding to the municipal visit to Paris, he describes France as "that spot which had for so long a period been regarded by the people of this country as their great national or natural enemy." We admire the originality and ingenuity of the learned Recorder in the difficult style of composition imposed on him by his office. Could he not undertake a great work, 'The Lives of the Lord Mayors,' similar to Foss's 'Lives of the Judges,' or Lord Campbell's 'Lives of the Chancellors'?

The French papers state that Lord Brougham, in his retreat at Cannes, is preparing for publication a work entitled, 'France and England before Europe in 1851.'

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Nov. 11th.—W. J. Broderip, Esq., Vice-President, in the chair. Professor Owen communicated a memoir 'On the Relative Capacity of the Cranial Cavity, and other Characters, as shown by sections of the Skull, in the Orang, Chimpanzee, and Human Subject.' The author, referring to his previous communication 'On the Skeleton of the Great Chimpanzee, *Troglodytes Gorilla*', (see ante, No.

1808), stated that he had been favoured by the Philosophical Institution of Bristol with the permission to make a section of a duplicate cranium of a full-grown male of that rare species in their museum, which had been liberally transmitted to him for that purpose. A similar section had been made of the skull of an adult male Orang-utan (*Simia satyrus*), from the stores of the Museum of the Zoological Society; and he submitted the results of the comparison of these sections with each other, and with corresponding sections of the skulls of different races of the human species.

Various modes had been adopted by anatomists to demonstrate the different proportions of the cranium and face in different species. To the common one, called by Camper the 'facial angle,' the objections offered by Cuvier and Lawrence were sustained in the attempt to apply it to the crania of the mature Chimpanzee and Orang, by the degree in which the facial angle was affected through the extraordinary development of the superorbital ridge in the genus *Troglodytes*. Tiedemann's method of testing the capacity of the brain-case, in the dry skull, gives its measurement pretty accurately in cubic inches, but is not applicable for ascertaining the proportion of the facial part of the skull.

This is best demonstrated by a vertical and longitudinal bisection of the skull at the median line. The sections exhibited (fig. 1 to 4) showed the nasal cavity to be equal to about one-fourth of the cranial cavity in the Papuan skull, and to be very nearly one-half in the adult Gorilla and Orang. The epencephalic and rhinencephalic divisions of the cranium are better defined, and the latter much deeper and narrower, in the Gorilla than in man: but the two compartments of the large prosencephalic division, for the anterior and middle lobes

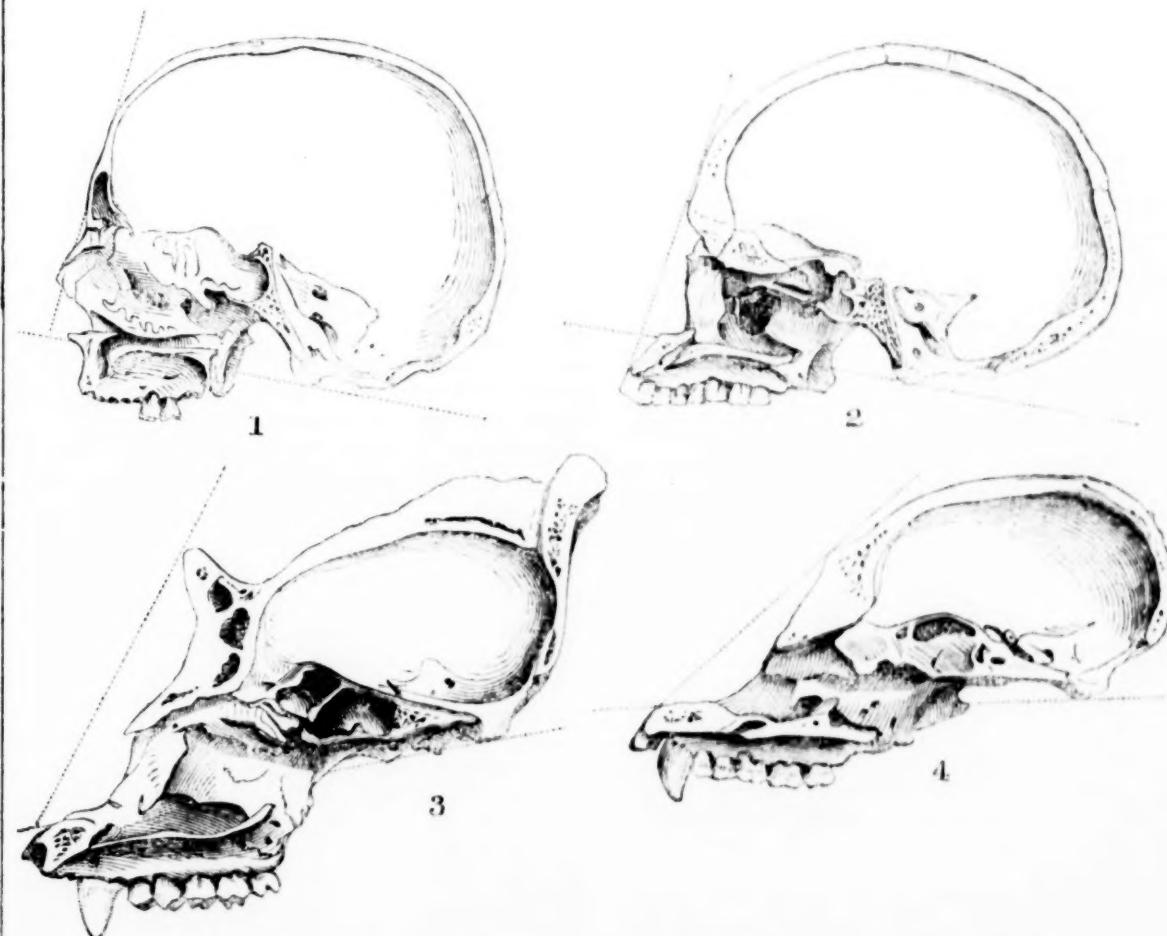


Fig. 1. Caucasian.

Fig. 2. Papuan.

Fig. 3. Gorilla.

Fig. 4. Orang.

of the cerebrum, are much less defined in the Gorilla. The foramen magnum is as large as in man, and therefore relatively much larger in comparison with the cranial cavity: its plane forms an angle of 145° with that of the floor of the nostrils, instead of being parallel therewith, as in man. There is no sella turcica in the Gorilla; and the lower plane of the basisphenoid is parallel with that of the floor of the nostrils, whilst in man it forms therewith an angle of 45°. The inter-orbital sinuses are divided from each other in

both the Gorilla and Orang by a dense and extensive plate of bone, sent back from the nasal to the frontal bones; the sinuses ascend to the base of the superorbital ridge in the Gorilla, but do not extend to a level with the upper border of the orbits in the Orang, so that there are no proper frontal sinuses. Professor Owen had found a similar absence of frontal sinuses in three crania of Papuans, two being natives of Tasmania and one of Australia. Although there were outward indications in the form of prominences in the usual

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situation of the frontal sinuses, these were occupied by a close cancellous texture, and no sinuses are continued from the nasal cavity above the orbits. The frontal sinuses are present in the African negro, the Polynesian, Malayan, Mongolian, and Caucasian races. He offered some suggestions on the probable effect of the absence of the frontal sinuses, should this prove a constant character, on the alleged harsh guttural voices of the Papuans, as contrasted with the resonant tone of the European voice, due to the comparatively greater extent of the cavities for vibratory air communicating with the cavity of the nose.

The nasal chamber is much larger in the Gorilla; the premaxillary bone is longer, larger, and slopes more forwards. The remains of the premaxillary suture were traceable in the palate, along the incisive canal, and for nearly an inch along the inner wall of the nostrils. The suture again appears at the upper and lateral part of the nostril, where the upper extremity of the premaxillary remained, as an ossicle, distinct from the coalesced part of the bone. The section of the skull of the adult male Orang (*Pithecius satyrus*), presented a close general resemblance to that of the Gorilla in the proportions of the cranial and facial cavities, but the former is shorter and a little higher. The lower plane of the base of the cranium is parallel with the plane of the floor of the nostrils. The sella turcica is defined by the post-clinoid process.

In the more important characters of the predominating proportion of the cranial over the olfactory cavities; in the infundibular production of the epencephalic compartment, down to the horizontal foramen magnum; and in the position and slight definition of the rhinencephalic compartment of the cranium, the Papuan agrees with the Caucasian, and contrasts strongly with the Gorilla and Orang.

The following admeasurements give the chief differences:

	European	Papuan.	Gorilla.	Orang.		
	In.	Line.	In.	Line.	In.	Line.
Length of skull.....	7	4	8	0	11	10
Length of cranial cavity.....	6	6	6	3	5	1
Height of cranial cavity.....	5	6	5	0	3	3
Premaxillary bone*	0	9	1	0	1	7
					1	10

* Length of cut surface in front of the incisive canal.

A diagram of the mean capacity of the cranium was exhibited, which assigned to that of the—

Caucasian (Englishman)	96 cubic inches.
Malayan	86 "
Ethiopian { African .	82 "
Australian .	75 "
Gorilla	30 "
Chimpanzee	28 "
Orang	28 "

In the young Orang, with the deciduous teeth in place, the proportions of the cranial to the olfactory chambers resemble those in the Papuan; and the same is the case in the little marmoset (*Callithrix pithecia*), with the mature dentition complete, in which the area of the section of the cranium is four times as large as that of the face, exclusive of the lower jaw.

In judging, therefore, of the grade of a species by the proportions of the cranium to the face, those proportions must not be taken as an absolute criterion, but must be considered in connexion with the age of the individual, and the size of the species as compared with that of the rest of its order. That which makes the superior capacity of the brain-chamber in man so remarkable a distinctive character, is its association with a stature which exceeds that of the largest species of the Quadruped.

The growth of the brain is more rapid than that of the rest of the body, and bears the same large proportion thereto at a certain stage of development in all the Quadruped, after which it

acquires its adult proportions comparatively slowly; but in the meanwhile the rest of the body continues to acquire, with a more or less accelerated growth, the stature assigned to the species; and where this is arrested at foetal or infantile proportions, as in the squirrel monkeys (*Jacchus*) and marmosets (*Callithrix*), as compared with the Orangs and Chimpanzees, a foetal proportion of brain and brain-case is likewise retained; but an unconvoluted, or little convoluted surface of the hemispheres is associated with that large proportional size, which shows them to be analogous to the foetal hemispheres in the Orang or Chimpanzee.

Professor Owen recapitulated, in conclusion, the additional evidences of specific or subgeneric distinction shown by these sections between the Orangs (*Pithecius*) and Chimpanzees (*Troglodytes*), and insisted on the inadequacy of any of the influences or conditions that had been suggested by transmutationists to effect a conversion of one into the other, and *a fortiori* of either type into the much more distinct one of the Bimanoes order.

Papers were read by Mr. Benson on new species of *Helix*, and by Mr. Arthur Adams on new species of *Murex* and *Rissoina*.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Nov. 10th.—Sir R. I. Murchison, President, in the chair. The Crown Prince of Sweden and the Grand Duke Constantine were admitted members. Lieut. Pim, R.N., laid before the meeting his scheme for an expedition in search of Sir John Franklin. The particulars having been fully published in the daily papers, a brief extract will suffice here. Lieut. Pim's plan is based on the idea that the missing ships are to be sought for on the Northern Asiatic coasts. If Franklin passed through Wellington Channel, and found a more open sea, it would be easy to penetrate far westward, but his obstruction would begin on endeavouring to land southward of Behring's Straits. They might be entangled in some labyrinth of ice and islands abreast of Behring's Straits, or southwest in the Siberian Seas. Wrangel's narrative was quoted to show that Russian ships found great difficulty in advancing eastward from the currents setting there against them, which rendered it more probable that the *Erebus* and *Terror* had drifted beyond Baffin's Straits. Lieut. Pim proposed, therefore, to explore the northern coast of Siberia. Lady Franklin had offered to advance £500; and he intended to proceed to St. Petersburg immediately. He purposed travelling with a single attendant, and calculates that by 1854 the search will be completed. His route will be by Moscow, Tobolsk, Irkutz, Jakoutz, a distance of nearly 5500 miles, by sledges. At Jakoutz regular travelling ceases, after which 1200 miles by the River Kolyma, and 2000 miles of coast search, will be made as the resources of the country admit.

LINNEAN.—Nov. 4th.—Robert Brown, Esq., President, in the chair. Mr. R. P. Bamber and Hugh Cleghorn, M.D., were elected Fellows. Mr. Couch communicated the discovery, on the coast of Cornwall, of a shell-less mollusk, allied to the *Oncidium celticum*, Cuvier. It occurs in abundance on a confined space of rocks at West Coomb, in Lantivet Bay, between Polperro and Fowey, congregated in little groups, about a foot or two from the surface of the sea, where the waves break over them, and they ascend and descend so as to maintain that distance, as the tides rise and fall. How little they are able to bear immersion appears from the circumstance, that when Mr. Couch attempted to preserve them alive in a bottle of sea-water, they did not survive the day. A letter addressed to the president was then read, from Mr. Kennett Loftus, of the Turko-Persian Boundary Commission, dated from Kerrind, Persia, Aug. 6th. This locality abounds in plants exuding gums, and Mr. Loftus, on the recommendation of Mr. Robert Brown, had examined some of those which yielded the fetid gums of commerce. His observations went to show that the gum was chiefly exuded from the plant under circumstances of injury. With respect to the *Dorema ammoniacum*, the exudation of gum was chiefly caused by injury from the teeth of

cattle. They were very partial to this plant, and came to feed on it. It had been stated by Capt. Hart, that the exudation in this instance resulted from the piercing of beetles. This, Mr. Loftus considered, was an exception, not the rule, and that the statement arose from the circumstance that numerous coleopterous insects feed upon the flowers. The plant, called in Kourdish 'khara-zuhlah,' exudes gum spontaneously from the axils of the umbels and petioles, as well as from injured parts. For this plant, if undescribed, Mr. Loftus proposes the name *Dorema hirsutum*. The third gum-plant noticed by Mr. Loftus was a species belonging to the tribe *Sileridae*, marked with irregular black spots, for which he proposes the specific name *maculatus*. Its gum is called in Kourdish 'beeje,' and exudes pretty freely from the plant when injured, though not so abundantly as from *Dorema ammoniacum*. These three gums have the same properties, and form an emulsion with water. In strong spirit the resins and oils are dissolved, and colour is extracted. On the addition of water, the spirit becomes white and milky, as before. The plants were found growing in a lime-stone soil, at an elevation of from 5000 to 7000 feet. The wild almond, the *Astragalus*, and the *Pistachia vera*, were also found growing abundantly in the same locality, each yielding large quantities of gum; and a thistle, which on being pierced by a large *rhyncophora* exudes honey, especially from the bud.

Mr. Loftus promises fuller investigation of the gum-plants of Persia in the course of next summer, as his party proceeds northwards. In reference to the object of the expedition, he adds, "Our labours hitherto have been confined to the desert, but I cannot say that they have been satisfactory, since positively nothing has been done towards the demarcation of the boundary, owing to the disputes and jealousy of the contending parties."

Among the specimens exhibited were 200 species of plants, collected by Messrs. Drummond and Gilbert in Australia, presented by Mr. W. W. Saunders; Australian *Leguminosa*, by Mr. Heward; specimens of the true gamboge plants (*Garcinia pictoria*, Roxb.), presented by Dr. Cleghorn; and a curious ball of larch-leaves formed round a plant of *Conferva agagropila*, obtained from a pond in Shropshire, presented by Mr. Marnock.

ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Nov. 7th.—Edward Hawkins, Esq., treasurer, in the chair. A communication was read from the Earl of Enniskillen, on the discovery of a singular structure, of piles and a frame-work of timber, in a lake in Co. Roscommon. An artificial island had thus been formed, evidently at a very remote period, as appeared by the objects of bronze celts, ornaments, and implements of considerable antiquity, already brought to light around this stockade, sufficient to form a small museum. Canoes, hewn from a single log, had also been found. The Rev. J. L. Petit gave a report on the peculiar features of church architecture in certain districts of France, as compared with structures of the same period in England, and pointed out some interesting facts connected with the progress of the earlier styles, especially in the Beauvoisis. Sir F. Madden read a curious notice of an antique intaglio, found at Sessa, on the northern shores of the Adriatic, and used in the middle ages as a signet by an Italian nobleman of the Roggieri family, probably in the thirteenth century. Mr. Hewitt described some recent acquisitions added to the Tower Armoury, and exhibited an unique helm, of great weight and extraordinary dimensions, of the times of Cœur-de-Lion. Armour of that period is of the greatest rarity, and this fine head-piece is believed to be a genuine English example. He gave an account also of a piece of artillery, a hooped gun of the earliest fashion, rescued from the wreck of the Mary Rose, and presented to the Armoury by the Directors of the South Eastern Railway. The stone-shot with which it had been charged is still visible in the muzzle. Mr. Maberly produced a series of plans and sections of Rising Castle, Norfolk, and gave a detailed account of that fine Norman fortress. The Rev. F. Warre gave a report of recent explor-

ations of the area of a British fortified town near Weston-super-Mare; and Professor Buckman detailed the results of late excavations at the Leases, Cirencester, a locality long known as a mine of ancient relics. The diggings had lately been resumed with great success, extensive remains of buildings brought to light, and numerous antiquities of value. Subscriptions are solicited to carry out this undertaking with full effect. The collection of ancient objects and works of art exhibited were unusually numerous, comprising especially a number of Saxon weapons found during the previous week at Nottingham; several implements or weapons of stone, both such as are found in the British Isles, and others from Alexandria, produced by Mr. S. Pratt. Mr. Brackstone sent several unique objects of the same description, from the Bay of Honduras. The Hon. R. Neville sent some of the recent results of his discoveries at Little Wilbraham, where he has brought to light a rich variety of ornaments, weapons, and remarkable vestiges of the Anglo-Saxon age, now preserved at Audley End. A fac-simile of an inscribed slab, lately found in Devon, was communicated by the Duke of Northumberland, and pronounced by Mr. Westwood to be of the sixth or seventh century, and a curious addition to the early Christian memorials of the western counties and Wales, which he is preparing for publication. Mr. Falkner produced fac-similes of monumental figures commemorating some of the ancestors of General Washington, lately found in Oxfordshire. The discovery had excited much interest, having been noticed in the New York Journals. A remarkable "palimpsest" painting was shown by Mr. Payne, having been originally a portrait of Wycliffe, but painted over, and converted into that of Robert Langton, whose name appears concealing that of Wycliffe. This later work appears to be of the times shortly before the Reformation. The original painting appears to be of the fifteenth century, and bears much resemblance to the fine portrait at Knoll.

ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY.—Nov. 10.—Dr. Robinson, President, in the chair. A letter was read from Mr. Cooper, of Markree, detailing the phenomena of a remarkable thunder-storm, accompanied with rain falling at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch depth in fifteen minutes. Dr. Starkie communicated a paper relative to an extraordinary meteor seen at Kingstown in June last. Among the donations presented to the Academy since the close of the last session, are the following:—A stone ornament annular shape. A stone hatchet, and a flint, found near Ballinderry, in the Queen's County; a stone mould for casting arrow-heads; a bronze belt, a bronze plate, and a bronze spear, found near Tullahogue, in the north of Ireland; a curious antique wooden dish, found in a bog by a peasant, and the smallest of a nest of these dishes which were made to fit into each other. Also a curious specimen of the Irish antique drinking-cup, or "mether," of wood, and presenting some curious astrological signs or inscriptions at the sides, and bearing the name and date of Dermot Tully, 1590. Lastly, a curious antique iron key, with a handle ingeniously wrought, and bearing traces of having been once overlaid with gold. It was found in the vicinity of the Little Monastery, at Dunluce, near the Giant's Causeway, and appears to have been a chamberlain's key of the court of Austria.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Monday.*—British Architects, 8 p.m.
—Chemical, 8 p.m.
—Statistical, 8 p.m.
- Tuesday.*—Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.
—Linnean, 8 p.m.
- Wednesday.*—Geological, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.—(Professor Sedgwick's additional Observations on the Slate Rocks of Cornwall and Devon.—C. J. F. Bunbury's Description of a curious Fossil Fern from the Coal Measures of Cape Breton.—W. Hopkins, Esq., on the Erratic Blocks of the South Highlands of Scotland.)
- Thursday.*—Antiquaries, 8 p.m.
—Royal, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.
- Friday.*—Philological, 8 p.m.

FINE ARTS.

ONE of the prominent reasons for the present enlargement of our space has been the increasing and growingly important demand of the Fine Arts for a consistently regular and detailed weekly notice—a demand which has hitherto been too much neglected or slighted by the press of this country. It has ever been the cry of our artists, and is now becoming daily more and more that of their admirers, that the current notices and criticisms on the subject have been, for the most part, inefficient—written by incompetent persons, and subject to untoward influences. We propose to employ our best efforts to amend the abuse, by a due recognition, and by a just estimate of the arts in their various branches, to teach the advancing intelligence of the people correctly to appreciate the true and beautiful in art, and to fulfil that teaching conscientiously and, we hope, efficiently. To that end it may be well, in the first place, to review generally and briefly what we conceive to be the present position and state of the Fine Arts in Great Britain—to take a retrospective view of the causes which have operated, and are still operating, to their advancement or retardation, and to give some estimate of our hopes and prospects for the future. We need not look back at the earlier efforts towards the introduction of painting into the country, consisting as they did, for the most part, of the importation of some eminent foreign artist as court portrait-painter, followed by the inferior imitations of some native aspirant, and there an end, until the introduction of the new talent and new style of other foreigners, as in the instance of Holbein, the court portrait-painter of Henry VIII., and of the early reign of Elizabeth; Vandyke, of Charles I.; and Lily and Kneller, of Charles II. Nor yet, greatly as we—amongst all true lovers of the intellectual in art—may admire and appreciate him, do we date the first advancement of native art from our great Hogarth. Grand and varied and fertile as was his power, he was not eminent as a painter in the sensuous acceptance of the term. His works wanted the allurement and fascination of beauty, and of all that illusion which is the result of colour and *chiaroscuro*—in short, of that which gives a charm to the slightest effort,—the merest few random scratches of the delicately-organized artist's hand. We would rather date the commencement of our school of art from Reynolds, who carried his natural susceptibility to the beautiful, to fetch away from genial Italy the inspiration and the means, and who, with a strong nationality, stamped upon his canvases, in a manner not to be mistaken, the stalwart and vigorous characteristics of his countrymen, and the genial domestic emotions and delicate yet healthily-glowing beauty of its women. That was, we conceive, the touchstone. Immediately others started up, as Gainsborough and Romney, and as Wilson in landscape, who felt the national impulse, and more or less added to its development. But we attribute to the establishment of the Royal Academy—that well and sometimes deservedly abused institution—the means of giving a permanence to these efforts, by its annual exhibitions. The stream of art, thus concentrated and self-supporting, was in no danger of dying out in obscure ramifications. The world saw and felt that we had a native school, and although grumbling, as is our wont, that it was not better nor greater, still it lived on. But as yet it was mainly indebted for its growing power to portraiture. The young artist had no encouragement for his productions except in that branch, and thus, by giving to it his early attention, he became perfect in that department only: thus it was with Sir Thomas Lawrence. At last came Wilkie, who, taking up in a modified degree the acute observation of that world around him which characterized Hogarth, added all the graces and learning of art,—beauty of composition, good drawing, and the utmost refinement of execution. That was a great step. Instantly other, and the most gifted of the young artists, made the essay, and did not starve, for under the wing of the genius of

Wilkie sufficient attention was attracted to their works to prevent their compelled divergence into the lists of portraiture, for no young genius would be a mere portrait-painter but by compulsion. The genius of Lawrence still, however, held the fashionable world in thrall, by the fascination of his portraits, and it was not until his death that his noble and wealthy patrons, finding no man to take his place, transferred their encouragement to works of imagination, and that epoch may be said to have given to the British painter of imaginative works his first fair chance before the world. The result has been seen. In proportion as portraiture has seceded from our exhibitions, pictures embracing, perhaps, a greater variety of style and subject—successfully treated—have appeared on their walls, than have been produced during the same period by the artists of any other nation in the world. We have thus very briefly described the leading influences affecting the school of painting in this country up to the present time. Many collateral causes there have doubtless been to modify and influence them both for good and ill. Much might be said of such causes now existing, but the great fact is now acknowledged abroad—we are happy to say—as well as at home, that we have a school of painting full of national characteristics, healthy and vigorous, and although hitherto not marked by works of the highest calibre, yet fraught with intellectual aspirations, and promising to reach in its own way a pinnacle of greatness worthy of the country.

Finden's Royal Gallery of British Art. Part 16. THE present number, which is, we believe, the concluding one of the work—a work to which we are indebted for the vivid remembrance of a large number of the most distinguished pictures of the British school, has for its complement of three plates, first, 'The Young Brood,' by J. Linnell, engraved by J. Outram. Remembering as we do the exquisite charm of colour possessed by the original, we are somewhat painfully impressed by the fact, that Mr. Linnell's works are not calculated for the engraved translation. There is a want of drawing particularly seen in the old man in the background, together with a want of decision in the execution, which detract much from the work. This last fault has not been lessened by the engraver, although the plate possesses much force and clearness. Another is, Mr. A. E. Chalon's 'Knox Reproving the Ladies of Queen Mary's Court,' engraved by W. T. Roden. Every one must have been surprised at this picture of Mr. Chalon's, which was, as is not usual with him, executed in oil. For life and vigour, and an earnest telling of the story in a simple and intelligent manner, combined with beautiful composition and brilliancy of effect, we know of no work by the artist which approaches it. The engraver, too, has done his part well, though the plate is in parts a little hard. The third plate is from Mr. Maclise's well-known picture of 'The Author and the Actors,' engraved by C. W. Sharpe, and is in all respects an admirable work. Indeed, Mr. Maclise's pictures are wonderfully calculated to tell to advantage through the means of the burin. Deficient in colour and the finesse of surface, there is still enough of the latter for the engraver's purpose, whilst in the excellence of the drawing, and the precision with which everything is made out, even to the minutest detail, combined with vigorous expression and picturesque materials, there is nothing wanting to facilitate the engraver's success, and Mr. Sharp has answered well the demands upon him, and produced a plate which tells well as the concluding work of such a distinguished series.

Sir Joseph Paxton, drawn on Stone by J. H. Lynch, from a Daguerreotype by Mr. Kilburn. Hering and Remington.

A MOST intense profile likeness of the distinguished architect of the Crystal Palace, though wanting somewhat in the genial expression of the original. The lithography is executed with great skill and care, and with a dexterous refinement of pencil, which is particularly remarkable in the hair.

[November 15]

At a meeting of the Council of the London University this week, there was received a formal act of presentation of the statue of Flaxman, by the late Mr. M. L. Watson, from the committee for superintending its erection. It is to be placed in the Flaxman Gallery. It had previously been removed to the College from the Exhibition.

A marble bust of Dr. J. C. W. Lever, one of the Physicians of Guy's Hospital, by Baily, R.A., has been presented to his family by a number of ladies, his patients. Mr. Joshua Butterworth, who had acted as treasurer, presented it on behalf of the subscribers. A testimonial such as this we are pleased to notice, as being at once a way of encouraging art, and of acknowledging professional skill or personal worth.

MUSIC.

THE winter musical campaign has commenced with M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS, at Drury-lane Theatre, under every prospect of success; an overflowing audience, a brilliantly-decorated theatre, a band of excellent players, with the soloists, Sivori, Piatti, and Bottesini, each unique after his particular style, and the renowned conductor himself, in the full force of all his innocent and amusing fopperies. That Jullien has become an established favourite none could deny who witnessed the vociferous demonstration of welcome that greeted his first ascent to the gilded rostrum. The amusement he provides, too, is enjoyed with the most unsophisticated satisfaction by the crowds of the promenade. He pleases the popular appetite for music as adroitly as his epicurean counterpart, Soyer, pleases the popular palate; and both have become accordingly naturalised amongst us. Crowds have now learned to acknowledge their admiration for a Beethoven symphony, and it is extremely gratifying to find such compositions listened to by a popular audience. We must, however, express our regret that the unruly behaviour of the 'gents' of the promenade should be tolerated. Over-coats and hats should be prohibited in front of the orchestra, and the entire space filled with seats. Now that classical music is more and more ventured upon, we shall hope this season to hear more of it; and remembering the success of the Beethoven and Mendelssohn festivals, as they were called, we question whether the whole first part of each concert might not successfully be devoted to the higher class of music, especially as the present medley of plaintive adagios and rampant gallops tells anything but sweetly on the tasteful listener.

Some changes have occurred in the band; the present leader is M. Deloffre, a very able player, long resident here, and first introduced by the concerts of Mr. Cooper. M. Janza and Mr. Thirlwall are also among the leading violins, who, we fancy, are fewer in number than usual. The basses are very efficient; the violoncello led by Piatti and Pilet, the contrabasso by Howell, the tenors by Vogel and Doyle. Mr. Richardson, the flutist, will be missed by the admirers of his instrument, though the post is well filled by M. Remusat and De Follet. M. Barret, the principal oboe, is also not included. The grand combination of the military bands, we conclude, is not to be attempted again; and the corps of French drummers is tolerably well supplanted by a number of our own drummer-boys. The monster octo-basso, the colossal ophicleide, and the giant drum, occupy the top of the orchestra, and cause no small wonder as to how they are to be played. Besides Sivori, Piatti, and Bottesini as soloists, Mrs. John MacFarren is engaged as the pianiste, and Miss Dolby will, in the absence of Jetty Treffz, be the vocalist.

The programme comprised, as the first piece, Beethoven's celebrated overture 'Leonora,' which, however, was not allowed to begin before the national anthem. Accustomed as we have been to hear the 'Leonora' under a baton more temperate and commanding, and with a full complement of violins, its effect on this occasion was but indistinct; the fine crescendo finale for the violins was necessarily a failure from want both of power

and unity. The andante selected from Mendelssohn's 3rd Symphony, 'The Cave of Fingal,' was a more satisfactory performance. So, again, was the andante in the second part from Beethoven's 2nd Symphony; and both these pieces of the severe style were listened to with much attention. The selections from operas in which various instruments take the voice-parts, appear to us the least pleasing of the music. All continuity of the music is sacrificed to the notions of the arranger for effect. Thus in the Huguenot selection, we get Marcel's 'War-song' after the sorrowful trio at the end of the opera; and at best these playings of voice-parts by ophicleide, or trombone, or cornet, are but poor imitations, that savour more of caricature than true expression. But it is in the dance music that we feel at once the touch of M. Jullien's genius, and he contrives to infuse his own feeling for it into his band. The polkas and quadrille came off so gay and trippingly, as to be quite irresistible even to the gravest classicists. The 'Enfant Prodigue Quadrille' is especially happily arranged; the 'Exhibition Quadrille' is thoroughly Jullien-esque—an amusing *farrago* of national airs and incomprehensible noises that bewilder and astonish, emerging at last into 'God Save the Queen,' to the great relief of the patient audience. Signor Bottesini has been playing every night, and creates singular astonishment at his feats of execution. We have on former occasions spoken of his surprising accomplishments. Nothing so remarkable has been heard since the time of Paganini. His playing is not mere execution; the tone produced is beautifully sweet, delicate, and musical, and coming from an instrument so unwieldy, is the more curious. He has given the 'Carnaval de Venise,' and Persiani's air from the *Sonnambula*, 'Ah non giunge.' Sivori played first on Wednesday, choosing his 'Carnaval de Cuba,' a piece abounding in all the extravagant manual difficulties that he alone could master, and as astonishment is the order of the day, it succeeds. Miss Dolby, undaunted by the boisterous and ill-mannered demeanour of the crowd on her first appearance, has continued to repeat her song of the *Page* from the *Huguenots*, 'Nobil Signor,' and the ballad of 'Bonnie Dundee' in the second part.

Among the novelties which M. Jullien promises, are grand selections arranged from the 'Flauto Magico' and the 'Fidelio'; an Indian quadrille, composed of East-Indian melodies, exhibiting the peculiar characteristics of the natives, well affords ample opportunities for a display of many singular noises and bizarre effects.

The first chamber concert of the SOCIETY OF BRITISH MUSICIANS was held at the rooms in Berners-street, on Monday. The attendance was tolerably good. Several instrumental and vocal pieces by English composers were performed; amongst these, a Sonata in D, by W. C. Macfarren, for pianoforte and violin, for the first time, played by Miss S. J. Woolf and Mr. J. Bannister. The other instrumentalists were Messrs. R. Barnett, Zerbini, Guest, H. Webb, and P. H. Griesbach. Miss Mira Griesbach, Miss Clara Panchaud, and M. Ferrari, were the vocalists; the music being under the direction of Mr. C. Stephens, the director of the evening.

The Society which met during the past season at the Beethoven Rooms, under the title of THE REUNION DES ARTS, has begun another series of *soirées*. At present music forms the only branch of art followed; but it is intended to exhibit works of art in sculpture and painting, and give literary orations and recitations. Artistes and amateurs are invited to perform indiscriminately, and the social intercourse of professors with amateurs and patrons of art is especially to be encouraged. On Wednesday a Madame Garcia, a cousin, as we were told, of the Malibran and Viardot, sang the 'Robert, toi que j'aime,' and 'La Zingara,' with considerable *éclat*. Herr Jahns, a baritone, sang some German songs, in a style somewhat too violent for English taste, but showing a voice of remarkable compass and power. The object of the Society is one that deserves support, and has our best wishes.

Mr. Eschborn, whom the German papers describe as a very talented young pianist and composer, died at Stuttgart, on the 18th ult.

A new opera in three acts, *Maria Giovanna*, has just been performed for the first time at the Teatro Carignano, at Turin, with unexampled success. The *Sposa di Murcia*, another new piece, by the maestro Cassalini, has been brought out in the Teatro Nazionale of the same city.

A fac-simile of the famous 'Antiphonaire' of Montpellier has just been presented to the Bibliothèque Nationale, at Paris. The 'Antiphonaire' dates from the 12th, or, as some suppose, the 9th century, and is one of the most ancient, most curious, and most valuable specimens of musical antiquity now extant. It is 500 pages in extent.

It turns out that the story reported from Venice of the assassination of Fraschini, the tenor-singer, by a brother artist, in a fit of jealousy, was a hoax. It was probably a trick of the two singers, to acquire notoriety preparatory to the approaching season.

Madame Sontag has attracted large audiences to hear her in the *Sonnambula* and *Fille du Régiment*, at Frankfort. The doors of the theatre were so beset at the first representation, that some were half-suffocated, and many were unable to get admittance.

Ronconi appears to be the 'lion' at St. Petersburg, in his celebrated part in *Maria di Rohan*. Madame Persiani had been singing in the *Elisir d'Amore* with a new tenor, Pozzolini. The *Huguenots*, with Grisi and Mario, in which Formes made his *début*, had surpassed all precedent.

Mr. G. A. Macfarren's opera, *Charles II*, is, we observe, announced for the opening night at the Haymarket, on Monday.

Of Mr. Bunn's opera at Drury-lane, nothing seems yet to be decided upon, though we hear rumours of Alboni singing in English—of Mr. Balfe and Mr. Benedict having written operas—and of Sig. Schirra being the director of the music.

THE DRAMA.

THE chief dramatic event of the present week has been Mr. Henry Farren's performance of *Shylock* at the OLYMPIC. This character, which has not of late been often performed in London, and perhaps not at all completely to the satisfaction of a critical audience since the days of the elder Kean, would afford to a young actor, with sufficient faith in his own conceptions to discard conventional trammels, a good opportunity of producing a sensation. Unfortunately, however, this was not the characteristic of Mr. H. Farren's performance. Indeed, his acting throughout was chiefly remarkable for the care and undeviating servility with which all the old established points were copied, and all the familiar broad outlines of the character delineated. To do this so well as it was done required a great amount of intelligence and study, the result of which, together with an indication of purpose in every tone and action, was a certain sort of success in the representation, and were *The Merchant of Venice* a melodrama, and *Shylock* a mere vindictive old man, Mr. H. Farren might have been pronounced a 'good *Shylock*'; but the intensity of hatred and the poetic colouring that idealize the character, found no exponents in his acting, and there was a rugged awkwardness in his manner that must be got rid of before the effect can be at all satisfactory. On the whole, this performance gave us a better impression of this actor's talent than anything we have seen him do; yet why should a London audience be subjected to such experiments? Miss Laura Keene was the *Portia*, and played—although an apology was made for her on the score of indisposition, which we had not detected—in a careful and lady-like manner. Miss Keene's elocution is somewhat defective, and her powers are not equal to an intelligent appreciation of Shakspere. She, too, has much to learn before she can with propriety fill the position of leading actress in a metropolitan theatre. We may notice, by the way, that the learned Doctor of Rome was dressed like an Oxford student of the present day! Mr. Compton's *Lassie-*

let Gobbo was excellent. There was little beyond this noticeable. The play was followed by a new farce, called '*The Original Bloomers*', of which, as it pretends to be no more than a *pièce de circonstance* upon a hackneyed subject, we suppose we must not complain that it has neither plot nor original characters, and that its story, two young ladies having arrived from America in the Bloomer costume, excite the curiosity of two old maids, and provoke almost to an attack upon the house they are residing in, the mob, who are not pacified till the offenders are produced in the balcony in the ordinary dresses of their sex, is slight even for such a piece. Although there was nothing remarkable in the acting of this trifle, it was received with much laughter and applause.

Another one-act piece, but with more originality and broader fun, was produced at the STRAND, or Punch's Theatre, as the public will not call it, on the same evening. This is called *A Squib for the Fifth of November*, and in its short and lively progress a young gentleman is induced, for the sake of a young lady, to introduce himself into her father's house in the disguise of a Guy. Upon this incident the piece is founded; but if a squib, after the requisite amount of scintillations, goes out with a bang, what can be said but that it has duly fulfilled its destiny? The Guy was humorously personated by Mr. Rogers. This little theatre, which wisely restrains its efforts to amuse within the range of its capabilities, and contains in its small company much available talent of an amusing character, seems getting on prosperously.

At the ADELPHI, the American actor, Mr. Silsbee, appears so exactly to have hit the peculiar taste of the frequenters of this popular place of amusement, as to render unnecessary any change in the performances. Here too Bloomerism, prettily expounded by Miss Woolgar and Miss Fitzwilliam, is also in the ascendant.

SADLER'S WELLS continues without deviation from its course of legitimate drama; but the company has been strengthened by the re-engagement of Miss Fitzpatrick, a young lady who excited attention two seasons back, by her spirited performances in the lighter characters of genteel comedy, and who has reappeared in *The Love Chase*.

Beyond the mere announcement that the HAY-MARKET opens on Monday, we have no programmes of the winter dramatic campaign; here the performances, commencing with Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. Corri, in Mr. MacFarren's opera of *Charles the Second*, will continue to be, as last season, a mixture of drama and opera. Mrs. Stirling has been engaged, and Mr. and Miss Vandenhoff are announced to appear shortly in a new and original five-act play. It is to be hoped that the London managers will not be misled, by the exceptional successes of last summer, into the belief that no more spirit and judgment are necessary to recall or retain the support of the public than served to please the uncultivated, simply curious, and easily amused audiences that thronged their theatres during the months of the Great Exhibition.

The last post has brought us news of half-a-dozen dramatic novelties in Germany, and it would appear that extravaganzas are the rage just now. Of these there is little to say, except that they exasperate the classical critics and amuse the public. Of exotics, we find that Scribe's *Battle of the Ladies*, a piece in the manner of Calderon's *Comedias de Capa y Espada*, has been adapted for the Leipzig stage. Of printed dramas, to which we chiefly alluded above, we have *Muhammed*, a tragedy in three acts, by an anonymous Swiss, who treats the oriental prophet in a very pragmatic manner, and whose characters, in spite of the title, appear to belong to the broadest farce. There is in this tragedy of *Muhammed*, a good deal of small-talk about the weather, the price of goods, coffee, women, breakfast and dinner, with here and there an unaccountable burst of passion or enthusiasm. Another tragedy disports on the hackneyed subject of the German peasant war, from which it fails to elicit anything new or striking. This piece was never intended to be performed.

In avowing thus much, the author condemns his own production. The best of the latest German dramas are unquestionably three tragedies by Frederic Röber, under the respective titles of *Henry IV.*, *Emperor of Germany*; *Tristan and Isolde*; and *Appius Claudius*. Herr Röber is a young author of great promise, and still greater conscientiousness. His *Henry IV.* has been in hand these ten years, for it was in 1841 that a few scenes were published in the German periodicals. But his best production, and the one most fit for adaptation to the English stage, is *Tristan und Isolde*.

At the Théâtre Français, at Paris, M. Jules Sandeau, the well-known romancer, has brought out a comedy entitled the *Marquis de Seigdierre*. This marquis is one of the old régime, and is driven into exile by the past revolution. He returns after the downfall of Napoleon, and the fun of the piece consists in the contrast between his strange antiquated notions and prejudices and those of the new régime. The character has often been introduced before, both in plays and books, and Beranger has rendered it immortal in his 'Marquis de Carabas.' But M. Jules Sandeau has contrived to give it all the charm of novelty. The other characters are equally well drawn, and they are made to move in an interesting plot, and to speak witty, sparkling, brilliant dialogue. The piece is performed in that very careful and superior style which distinguishes the performers of the first French theatre. Samson in particular, as the Marquis, is excellent.

At the Odeon, M. Jules Prémary—whose comical lucubrations on London and the Londoners we noticed a short time ago—has produced a clever little comedy entitled *The Rights of Man*. It tells the old tale of man's real subjection to woman, though he has the appearance of power over her, and flatters himself that he exercises it.

THE GUILD OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE amateur company of the Guild of Literature and Art commenced their performances in the provinces on Monday, with Sir E. Bulwer Lytton's comedy of *Not so Bad as we seem; or, Many Sides to a Character*, before a crowded and fashionable audience at the Assembly Rooms, Bath. The cast was the same as at Devonshire-house, the performers being Mr. Frank Stone, A.R.A., Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. Robert Bell, Mr. Augustus Egg, A.R.A., Mr. Dudley Costello, Mr. John Forster, Mr. Peter Cunningham, Mr. Douglas Jerrold, Mr. R. H. Horne, Mr. Charles Knight, Mr. Mark Lemon, Mr. Popham, Mr. Wilkie Collins, &c.

But whatever excitement the performers may have felt in enacting their several parts, we feel sure that it could not have equalled that which they all felt on getting down at the York Hotel, Bath, when a messenger, "pale and breathless," came from the perruquier, to say that the box of wigs had not arrived. This was in the afternoon of the day of the performance. Forgetting that the dinner was about to be served, away rushed some of the gentlemen to the railway station to make inquiries, while others hurried off to the Assembly Rooms. Having no electric telegraph at Bath, the utmost that could be done was to send off a special train for the wigs! And a special train actually was sent off! Let us, however, picture to ourselves a comedy of the time of George I., and without wigs, and we may easily conceive the dismay caused by this disaster. The perruquier was thought worthy of hanging—how could he desert his wigs—how could he send them off by rail a day before he came himself—he should never have allowed them to be out of his sight, day or night. Meantime, the poor frantic man was flying in cabs all over the town to try and obtain from the theatre and the numerous hair-dressers' shops at least half the requisite number of perruques—brown, black, and grey, and sandy, and red—and then by doubling the "parts" of the wigs, that is, adopting an organized system of lending, by those not wanted on the scene, to those who were to go on, it was nicely calculated that all might still go

pretty well. There was a chance of the wigs still arriving in time; but when six o'clock came, and there were no news of the wigs, or of the special train despatched to meet them on the way—if they really were on the way—then the perruquier was seen to go behind a door in the green-room, and it is believed that he was about to tear his hair from his own head, when Mr. Mark Lemon drew him forth, and exhorted him to proceed with the work of the substitute wigs, or "all would be lost." Accordingly, he proceeded with a deep sigh, when, to the inexpressible glee of the company, the wig-box suddenly made its appearance at the door of the green-room, borne hastily along by at least a dozen people, each one anxious to assist with one hand, at a corner or side, in the production of the long-delayed treasure.

The comedy was very well played; the parts of *Lord Wilmot* (Mr. Charles Dickens), *Sir Geoffrey Thorne-side* (Mr. Mark Lemon), and *Mr. Shadowy Softhead* (Mr. Douglas Jerrold), eliciting occasional applause, as did most of the others at different stages of the play. The arduous and somewhat too verbose part of *Hardman* was appropriately sustained by Mr. Forster, and *David Fallen* was very effective in the hands of Mr. Egg. Mr. Frank Stone not only spoke and acted well as the proud *Duke of Middlesex*, but 'looked' the character to perfection. The making-up of all of the different characters was excellent. One of the most effective scenes in the play was that which takes place between *David Fallen* and *Lord Wilmot* at the attic of the poor poet in Grub-street; but for loud 'demonstration,' notwithstanding the formal elegance of a great number of the audience, we must say we were surprised at the delight that was evinced at the representation of the drunken scene, in which *Mr. Goodenough Easy* (Mr. F. W. Topham) is carried off to the round-house on the shoulders of a watchman, while he makes a public speech, believing that he is addressing the 'independent electors' upon an occasion which is the 'proudest moment of his life.' It was extremely well acted by Mr. Jerrold, Mr. Topham, Mr. Charles Dickens, and the rest engaged in the scene.

The farce of *Mr. Nightingale's Diary* followed. It was capitally played by Mr. Dudley Costello, Mr. Mark Lemon, Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. Egg, and Mr. Wilkie Collins. We noticed several varieties and amusing alterations since we saw it at the Hanover-square Rooms. As in the comedy, so in the farce, the 'making-up' of all the characters was admirable.

The performance was repeated on Wednesday, at Bristol, the theatre, with all its appurtenances and appointments, having been removed by Mr. Sloman, and fitted up in the Victoria Rooms. The great room here is one of the largest in England. Notwithstanding that the theatre occupied a considerable space, there were seats for upwards of twelve hundred people. Every one of these was taken; and so rapidly were they disposed of, that the amateurs were solicited to give a second performance in Bristol. To do this was extremely inconvenient to several of them, owing to literary engagements; but they consented. Everything went off on Wednesday evening with acclamations. We never saw an audience more full of that ready appreciation which adds so much to the zest of a theatrical performance. The same things which were tamely received at Bath, were here caught at with enthusiasm,—for one laugh there, a dozen laughs were here,—for one pair of kid gloves there, a hundred pairs of hearty hands here echoed from the crowded seats. The performers were the same, their acting was the same; but the difference in spirit of the two audiences was something quite surprising to witness. Certainly there is more 'life' in Bristol. The dullard's judgment, 'Go to Bath with you,' is no idle proverb.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, November 12.

A TREATY for the suppression of literary piracy has been actually signed between Great Britain and France. No details respecting this important con-

[November 15]

vention are given; but I learn that it was signed on the 3rd of this month, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in this city, by the Marquis of Normanby on the part of England, and the Count Turgot on the part of France; and I learn also that the principal points of it are,—1, an absolute prohibition of literary piracy in the two countries; 2, the prohibition in both countries of the importation of piracies of the works of either from other countries; 3, the same protection to musical compositions, designs, paintings, sculpture, and other artistic productions as to books; 4, protection to translations of original works, published in either country, when made by or for the author—also translations of works published in other countries; 5, the assimilation of dramatic productions to books, and the protection of them accordingly.

This is the first time England and France have entered into a treaty of this kind. Although it is to be regretted that it has been delayed so long, the best thanks of the public are due to the governments of both nations for having, in spite of many obstacles, concluded it. It is to be hoped, and indeed expected, that the United States and Belgium will now be shamed into the adoption of similar conventions—the former with England, the latter with France. They are at present the only two countries in which piracy is carried on on an extensive scale; and when they shall have abolished it, it can be suppressed everywhere else by a few scratches of the pen.

The new treaty will be advantageous to English authors and publishers, by securing them the foreign as well as the home market for their books; and it will be indirectly advantageous to the public also—for the larger the certain sale of any work, the cheaper each copy can be made. But the parties who will be principally affected will be dramatists and translators. Henceforth they must pay a toll to the authors whose works they take. *En revanche* their translations will be protected. To be sure, dramatic translators and managers will grumble at the payment of the toll, seeing that the protection will scarcely be worth a straw to them, as the same piece is seldom produced at two theatres; but really it is but simple justice that they should give the Frenchmen whose pieces they borrow a portion of their gains. As to translations of books, the new treaty cannot fail to be satisfactory to translators, publishers, and the public:—to the two former by preserving them, in return for the payment of a certain sum, from competition and underselling—to the latter by causing works of real sterling merit, which have heretofore, from want of protection, been totally neglected, to be translated. Musicians and artists, and music publishers and print-sellers, will likewise, if they have their wits about them, be able to derive great pecuniary profit from the convention.

An Association of Musicians has just been formed, under the patronage of different working men's associations, for giving a series of concerts at a moderate price. The object is twofold—first, to give employment to a number of unfortunate musicians; next, to familiarise the lower classes with the works of Mozart, Beethoven, Gluck, Haydn, and other composers of genius. The opening concert was fixed for Monday last; and to give *éclat* to it, Victor Hugo, at the request of the Association, wrote some verses. But to the mortification of the public, the police, at the last moment, forbade the recitation of them. The sensation which this prohibition has caused is naturally very great; and as an appeal against it, Hugo has published his little poem.

The 'powers that be' seem decidedly in an intolerant humour this week, as in addition to Victor Hugo's verses, they have refused to allow the resuscitation of Alexander Dumas' famous drama, the 'Chevalier de Maison Rouge,' which, it may be remembered, was performed with extraordinary success some months before the Revolution of 1848. This play, indeed, had unquestionably great effect in hastening that fearful political convulsion; and it did so by the *éclat* which it cast around some of the personages and events of the first Revolu-

tion, and the craving for revolutionary excitement which it created in all classes. It was in this drama that the celebrated song—

"Mourir pour la patrie,
C'est le sort le plus beau, le plus digne d'envie,"

was introduced; and it struck so forcibly the imagination of the people, that it was not only played on the piano of every drawing-room, but sung in every workshop, and it was to its inspiring strain that bands of armed men fought at the barricades, and that when the victory was won, a vast procession swept on to the ancient palace of the Tuilleries, and drove forth the king and demolished the throne. After this, it must be confessed, the song became a tremendous bore, as we were deafened by it morning, noon, and night, and all day long—on every possible pretext, and on no pretext at all. And as it subsequently happened that the barricade conquerors were, to the number of tens of thousands, taken into the pay of the government, the tax-paying public found it both witty and appropriate to change *mourir* into *nourrir*—that is, to make the song, that "the noblest lot on earth, and the most worthy of envy," was not to *die for*, but to be *fed by* the country. Ridicule is mortal in France, and this change of dying into eating, soon destroyed the popularity of the song.

Madrid, Nov. 6.
POOR Spain does not shine very brilliantly in the modern literary firmament—even if she can be said to shine at all. But one of her principal literary men, Don Juan Hartzenbusch, assisted by our clever publisher, Senor Rivadeneira, is determined that her light shall not be altogether extinguished; and he has accordingly, with infinite industry, commenced a reprint of the works of her most distinguished authors, from the earliest ages to the present time. This reprint is entitled 'Biblioteca de Autores Espanoles,' and it is a more difficult undertaking than things of the kind in western and northern Europe. For as very many of the works of the principal authors never having been printed at all, the compiler has to hunt after them in libraries, in convents, and in out of the way places—whilst others, having been negligently printed, or 'improved' by friends or disfigured by enemies, have to be revised line by line. The drudgery which all this imposes is almost inconceivable to people accustomed to the literary facilities of France, Germany, and England; and the greatest credit is due to M. Hartzenbusch for having accepted it. Some idea of the importance of this gentleman's labours may be formed from the fact that he has brought to light not fewer than fourteen comedies of Calderon de la Barca, which previous editors were unable to discover. The total number of Calderon's pieces the world now possesses is therefore 122; and there is every reason to believe that they are all he wrote, with the exception of two or three, which there is not the slightest hope of recovering. In addition to this, M. Hartzenbusch has carefully corrected the text from the original manuscripts in the Theatre del Principe, or authentic copies deposited elsewhere; and he has added notes, which throw great light on the most obscure passages. Moreover, he has given a chronological table of the order in which Calderon produced his plays. This is very interesting, as it enables the reader to follow, step by step, the development of his genius. But what, perhaps, is the most curious thing of all is, that he demonstrates that 'le grand Corneille' of France actually borrowed, not plots alone, but whole passages, from Calderon. His play of *Heracles*, for instance, has evidently been taken from Calderon's comedy called *En esta vida todo es verdad y todo mentira*. Some of the passages are literal translations.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The second notice of Mr. Kaye's 'Afghanistan,' the Reports of the Geological and Entomological Societies, and Institution of Civil Engineers, the Inaugural Lectures of the Government School of Mines, and the usual column of Varieties, are unavoidably postponed at the last moment, in consequence of the demand upon our space for advertisements.

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The expenses .. 5,686 5 0

The total assets of the Company .. 704,010 14 0

The report entered into further details, and finished by stating that the directors felt it unnecessary to dwell further upon the sum of the year's account, as the quinquennial valuation to be made in June next was so near.

The report was unanimously adopted, and some routine business having been disposed of, the thanks of the meeting were very generally voted to the chairman, directors, and officers of the Company, when the meeting separated.

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1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	2360 5 6
3392	1820	5000	3558 17 8	8558 17 8

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